

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES  
AND TECHNOLOGY**

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# STATE OF MAINE

128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 128<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

*CARRIED OVER*..... carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature  
*CON RES XXX*..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses  
*CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died  
*DIED BETWEEN HOUSES*..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died  
*DIED IN CONCURRENCE*..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died  
*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died  
*EMERGENCY*..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment  
*FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote  
*FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... failed to receive final majority vote  
*FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT*..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote  
*HELD BY GOVERNOR*..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session  
*LEAVE TO WITHDRAW*..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY*..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died  
*INDEF PP*..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died  
*ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X*... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died  
*P&S XXX*..... chapter # of enacted private & special law  
*PUBLIC XXX*..... chapter # of enacted public law  
*RESOLVE XXX*..... chapter # of finally passed resolve  
*VETO SUSTAINED*..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

*Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology*

**LD 825 An Act To Ensure Direct Dialing of 911 from Multiline Telephone Systems**

**PUBLIC 48**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOODSOME D BERRY S	OTP	

This bill requires that any public or private entity that installs or operates a multiline telephone system ensures that the system is connected to the public switched telephone network in such a way that an individual dialing 911 is connected to the public safety answering point without requiring the individual to first dial any other number or set of numbers.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 48 requires that any public or private entity that installs or operates a multiline telephone system ensures that the system is connected to the public switched telephone network in such a way that an individual dialing 911 is connected to the public safety answering point without requiring the individual to first dial any other number or set of numbers.

**LD 1061 An Act To Increase Investment and Regulatory Stability in the Electric Industry**

**PUBLIC 134**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIERCE J SAVIELLO T	OTP-AM	H-173

This bill does the following.

1. It specifies that the Public Utilities Commission can direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to enter into long-term contracts for the regional procurement of transmission infrastructure, capacity resources, energy or renewable energy credits;
2. It requires the commission to report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utilities matters on the procurement of capacity resources, energy and renewable energy credits from the previous 12-months and if and how that procurement was consistent with the State’s goals for greenhouse gas reduction. The report must also include:
  - A. The number of requests for proposals;
  - B. The number of executed term sheets or contracts resulting from the requests for proposals;
  - C. The number of megawatts produced through contracts; and
  - D. A plan for the succeeding 12 months pertaining to the procurement of capacity resources, energy and renewable energy credits, which include dates for requests for proposals, types of resources and the anticipated date of executions of contracts;
3. It adds a rulemaking section to the Maine Wind Energy Act and requires those rules to be major substantive;
4. It adds a rulemaking section to the chapter of law that deals with the expedited permitting of grid-scale wind energy development as it relates to the determination of effect on scenic character and related existing uses and

## *Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology*

requires those rules to major substantive;

5. It changes the rulemaking from routine technical to major substantive in the chapter of law that deals with the expedited permitting of grid-scale wind energy development as it relates to scenic viewpoint and scenic inventory; and

6. It requires the Department of Environment Protection to convene a stakeholder group regarding the effect of expedited wind energy development on scenic character and existing uses and provides that the group may issue a report of its finding, including recommended legislation to this committee.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-173)**

This amendment replaces the bill. It removes from the bill the provisions of sections 3 through 6 and retains the provisions of section 1. This amendment also removes language from the provisions of section 2 of the bill regarding the State's goals for greenhouse gas reduction as it relates to an annual report from the Public Utilities Commission to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utilities matters. This amendment also adds to that annual report reporting requirements for the Public Utilities Commission, including information regarding the Community-based Renewable Energy Act and deep-water offshore wind energy pilot projects.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 134 does the following.

1. It specifies that the Public Utilities Commission can direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to enter into long-term contracts for capacity, capacity resources, energy or renewable energy credits pursuant to a regional procurement process in conjunction with other states; and

2. It requires the commission to report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utilities matters on the procurement of transmission capacity, capacity resources, energy and renewable energy credits from the previous 12-months under Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3210-C, subsection 3, Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, chapter 36 and Public Law 2009, chapter 615, Part A, section 6, as amended by Public Law 2013, chapter 369, Part H, sections 1 and 2 and chapter 378, sections 4 to 6. The report must also include:

A. The number of requests for proposals;

B. The number of executed term sheets or contracts resulting from the requests for proposals;

C. The number of megawatts produced through contracts;

D. A plan for the succeeding 12 months pertaining to the procurement of capacity resources, energy and renewable energy credits, which include dates for requests for proposals, types of resources and the anticipated date of executions of contracts; and

E. Estimates of ratepayer costs or savings associated with any approved term sheet, actual ratepayers costs or savings for the previous year associated with any procurements, and total ratepayer costs or savings at the time of the report.