

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2017

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STATE OF MAINE

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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 128th 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 128th 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 1062

Resolve, To Expand the Availability of Light-duty Zero Emission Vehicle Supply Equipment

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RYKERSON D MIRAMANT D	OTP-AM	H-320

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to establish a program to support the installation throughout the State of publicly accessible universally compatible electric vehicle charging stations. Under the program:

1. An entity doing business in the State would be able to apply for a grant to be used to install a charging station by submitting an application;
2. Applicants would be selected based on preferential criteria, including:
 - A. The ability of the applicant to make the charging station available to the public for use 24 hours per day and seven days per week;
 - B. The absence of other available charging stations in or near the area in which the proposed charging station will be located;
 - C. The relative safety of the proposed location of the charging station, including the presence of lighting or shelter;
 - D. The willingness of the applicant to contribute the applicant's own funds to help maintain and operate the charging station;
 - E. The location of the proposed charging station in relation to important regional attractions, events, facilities, transportation corridors, major thoroughfares and high-traffic areas; and
 - F. The proximity of dining, lodging, retail and entertainment opportunities within walking distance of the proposed charging station;
3. A recipient of a grant would be required to commit to:
 - A. Making the charging station accessible and available for use by the public; and
 - B. Maintaining and operating the charging station; and
4. Funds for grants would be provided by several sources. It is intended that the program be included in the State's beneficiary mitigation plan to receive trust funds pursuant to the Volkswagen Partial Consent Decree, which settles portions of the multidistrict litigation concerning certain Volkswagen diesel engines. In addition, private funding that is designed to leverage other funds would make up a part of the program funding.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-320)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment requires the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection and the Governor's Energy Office, to include in the State's beneficiary mitigation plan the proposal to allocate 15% of the trust funds received for light-duty zero emission vehicle supply equipment as permitted by the Volkswagen Partial Consent Decree. If the mitigation plan is approved, it requires

Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

that the funds be used in whole or in part to provide grants for the installation of light-duty zero emission vehicle supply equipment. It requires that grants funded with the trust funds be disbursed to projects that meet certain preferential selection criteria. It allows the Department of Transportation to disburse funds for the installation of light-duty zero emission vehicle supply equipment within an existing program or a new program developed in consultation with the Efficiency Maine Trust. Lastly, it requires that the Department of Transportation submit by January 15, 2018, a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology describing the status of the State's beneficiary mitigation plan, the plan to use funds for a new or existing grant program and the need, if any, for legislation for a grant program.

LD 1124 An Act To Promote the Development of Solar Energy in Maine ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BREEN C PIERCE T	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to enact measures designed to promote the development of solar energy in the State.

LD 1147 An Act To Modernize the Renewable Portfolio Standard PUBLIC 291

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DECHANT J	OTP-AM ONTP	H-272 S-290 DION M

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to modernize the renewable portfolio standard. The bill proposes to continue the current renewable portfolio standard level from January 2017 to December 2028.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-272)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee, and it replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. It extends the new renewable capacity resources portfolio requirement through 2028.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-290)

This amendment amends Committee Amendment "A" to extend the new renewable capacity resources portfolio requirement through 2022 rather than 2028 as in the committee amendment.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 291 extends the new renewable capacity resources portfolio requirement through 2022.

LD 1151 An Act To Allow Promotional Allowances by Gas Utilities PUBLIC 83

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT M DION M	OTP-AM	H-151