

# 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

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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 1262 An Act To Protect Monhegan Island by Limiting Wind Turbines**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOW D	ONTP	

This bill would prohibit an offshore wind energy project or wind energy test area, whether temporary or permanent to be located within the Monhegan Lobster Conservation Area or within 10 nautical miles of the Monhegan Lobster Conservation Area as measured from a line running from the outer perimeter of the Monhegan Lobster Conservation Area.

The provisions of the bill apply retroactively to January 1, 2009.

**LD 1299 An Act To Amend the Charter of the Town of Madison's Department of Electric Works**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FARRIN B WHITTEMORE R	ONTP	

This bill replaces language regarding the bonding authority of the Madison Department of Electric Works to provide that it is the electric works that issues bonds for its purposes and not the Town of Madison and to remove the \$1,200,000 cap on the issuance of bonds or notes for current operating expenses.

**LD 1313 An Act To Establish Energy Policy in Maine**

PUBLIC 282

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SANBORN H WOODSOME D	OTP-AM	H-429

This bill amends the law regarding the transfer of funds by the Efficiency Maine Trust from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund to the Public Utilities Commission for the purpose of the commission's making disbursements to affected manufacturing customers in proportion to their retail purchase of electricity. The bill removes the requirement to transfer \$3,000,000 per year to the Public Utilities Commission and instead directs the commission to determine the total amount to be disbursed based on a percentage. The bill allows affected customers to opt out of receiving a disbursement. The bill requires an affected customer to use the entire amount disbursed by the commission toward the cost of an approved efficiency measure in order for the affected customer to be eligible to receive matching funds from Efficiency Maine Trust.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-429)**

This amendment replaces the bill. It requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to transfer \$2,500,000 in fiscal year 2017-18, \$2,500,000 in fiscal year 2018-19 and \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2019-20 from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund to the Public Utilities Commission to disburse to certain energy-intensive manufacturers defined in statute as affected customers. The amendment clarifies that disbursements to affected customers are to be made on a quarterly basis. It allows an affected customer to elect not to receive a disbursement for fiscal years 2017-18 to 2019-20, which would make that customer eligible to receive financial or other assistance from the Efficiency Maine Trust from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund. It provides the Efficiency Maine Trust with discretion in directing remaining regional greenhouse gas initiative funds to programs, instead of being