MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS

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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

October 2018

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contain summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Special, Second Regular and Second Special Sessions 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 dates for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special, Second Regular or Second Special Sessions of the 128th Legislature are: Monday, February 5, 2018; Wednesday, August 1, 2018; and Thursday, December 13, 2018, respectively. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

LD 1690   **An Act To Facilitate Wireless Broadband Deployment in Maine and**   **Accepted Majority**
           Modify the Process for Issuing Utility Facility Location Permits   **(ONTP) Report**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
WADSWORTH N	ONTP	
WOODSOME D	OTP	

This bill changes the process for siting small cell facilities in order to facilitate wireless broadband deployment, including:

1. Through modifications to the process for issuing utility facility location permits, including small cell facility location permits;

2. Through the establishment of standards governing local land use ordinances applicable to the siting of small cell facilities; and

3. Through the establishment of standards governing the collocation of small cell facilities on poles owned by the State, an agency, a county, a municipality or a district.

LD 1699   **An Act To Revise the Renewable Portfolio Standard Laws To Allow**   **ONTP**
           Certain Hydropower Facilities To Qualify as New Renewable Capacity
           Resources

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
RYKERSON D	ONTP	
KEIM L		

This bill allows a hydropower facility licensed after January 1, 2018, with a licensed capacity of no more than 30 megawatts that is interconnected with an electric distribution system located in Maine to qualify as a new renewable capacity resource for purposes of meeting renewable energy portfolio standard requirements.

LD 1700   **An Act To Protect Maine Residents and Businesses from Rising**   **ONTP**
           Electricity Costs

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
BERRY S	ONTP	
WOODSOME D		

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

This bill proposes to establish a task force to examine the cost of the delivery of electricity to homes and businesses in this State and the factors that may cause this cost to rise, including, but not limited to, requests by electric utilities for rate increases, the recovery of costs incurred by electric utilities for recent storm restoration efforts and the possibility that ratepayers in this State may be required to pay a portion of the cost for new transmission lines to meet the demand for power in Massachusetts.

The task force would include among its members representatives of consumers, producers, electric utilities, the Governor's Energy Office, the Public Utilities Commission, the Office of the Public Advocate and legislators. The task force would report its findings, including a proactive and comprehensive approach to protect residents and