

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
129<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**

August 2019

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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 129<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 129<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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 346 An Act To Amend the Brunswick Sewer District Charter**

**P & S 1**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUCKER R	OTP	

This bill amends the Brunswick Sewer District Charter to allow the district to charge readiness to serve rates consistent with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1048. The bill also amends the charter to allow the treasurer of the district, when authorized by the trustees, to waive the district's right to foreclose on a lien mortgage established by the district on an individual's property, consistent with Title 38, section 1049. The bill provides the form that must be followed for filing the waiver.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Private and Special Law 2019, chapter 1 amends the Brunswick Sewer District Charter to allow the district to charge readiness to serve rates consistent with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1048. The law also amends the charter to allow the treasurer of the district, when authorized by the trustees, to waive the district's right to foreclose on a lien mortgage established by the district on an individual's property, consistent with Title 38, section 1049, and provides the form that must be followed for filing the waiver.

**LD 347 An Act To Provide Sustainable Funding for Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure**

**PUBLIC 423**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DECHANT J VITELLI E	OTP-AM ONTP	H-206

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to provide ongoing funding for improvements to water and wastewater infrastructure statewide, including, but not limited to, funding to support the State Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Fund established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 6006-H.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-206)**

This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. The amendment does the following.

1. It amends the law governing the use of the Liquor Operation Revenue Fund after all liquor operation revenue bonds and any ancillary obligations secured by the fund have been retired to provide additional funding for water and wastewater infrastructure. Specifically, while current law provides a maximum of 15% of funds available after retirement of the bonds be used for matching funds for federal programs for drinking water and wastewater systems, the amendment provides 30% of funds after bond retirement be designated for drinking water and wastewater purposes. The amendment divides the 30% between drinking water and wastewater at 45% and 55% respectively. For both drinking water and wastewater the amendment provides the funds first be used for the state match for federal funds for revolving loans.
2. It amends the law governing the State Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Fund and the Maine Clean Water Fund to allow the funds to be used to provide assistance for capital investment in private and commercial wastewater systems.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 423 amends the law governing the use of the Liquor Operation Revenue Fund after all