

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH 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

STAFF:

LUCIA NIXON, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

MEMBERS:

SEN. MARK W. LAWRENCE, CHAIR
SEN. DAVID R. MIRAMANT
SEN. DAVID WOODSOME

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STATE OF MAINE

129TH 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 129th 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 129th 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 1401 Resolve, To Study Transmission Solutions To Enable Renewable Energy Investment in the State

RESOLVE 57

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S	OTP-AM ONTP	H-369

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to establish a study of transmission solutions to help enable more renewable energy investment in the State. The study would examine areas of clean energy potential; review possible funding mechanisms for advancing renewable energy initiatives, including bonding and public-private partnerships; and recommend measures to increase the pace of renewable energy investment in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-369)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, with a resolve. The amendment directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene a stakeholder group to examine and make recommendations regarding transmission system needs and solutions to support renewable energy investment in the State. The amendment requires the Governor's Energy Office to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by December 15, 2019 on the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group. The amendment authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 57 directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene a stakeholder group to examine and make recommendations regarding transmission system needs and solutions to support renewable energy investment in the State. It requires the Governor's Energy Office to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by December 15, 2019 on the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report.

LD 1436 Resolve, Directing Coordinated State Agencies To Engage with the Governing Leaderships of Portland Pipe Line Corporation and Montreal Pipe Line Limited for Sustainability-centered Repurposing of Stranded and At-risk Infrastructure Assets in Maine

RESOLVE 77

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KESSLER C MILLETT R	OTP-AM ONTP OTP	H-414

This resolve directs the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Governor's Energy Office, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Bureau of Land Resources within the Department of Environmental Protection, the Maine Land Use Planning Commission and the Public Utilities Commission in coordination to negotiate directly with the executive and board leaderships of the Portland Pipe Line Corporation and Montreal Pipe Line Limited parent companies Suncor Energy, Shell Oil Company and Imperial Oil Limited a proposal for repurposing the Portland-Montreal pipeline and related real estate holdings in the State. It directs the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business to appoint a project liaison or project liaisons to coordinate the proposal over a 6-month period, which may be extended as needed. It also prohibits any state agency from issuing any further permits related to the New England Clean Energy Connect transmission project before the proposal is complete, as determined by the Department of Economic and

Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

Community Development

Committee Amendment "A" (H-414)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It amends the resolve as follows.

1. It directs the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Governor's Energy Office to lead an effort to engage, rather than negotiate, with the executive and board leaderships of the Portland Pipe Line Corporation and Montreal Pipe Line Limited parent companies Suncor Energy, Shell Oil Company and Imperial Oil Limited to examine opportunities for repurposing the Portland-Montreal pipeline and related real estate holdings in the State.
2. It removes references in the resolve to creating an alternative to the New England Clean Energy Connect transmission project.
3. It removes the provision that required the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business to appoint a project liaison or project liaisons to coordinate the proposal over a six-month period.
4. It removes the moratorium on state agency approval of permits related to the New England Clean Energy Connect transmission project.
5. It adds a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by February 15, 2020.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 77 directs the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Governor's Energy Office to lead an effort to engage with the executive and board leaderships of the Portland Pipe Line Corporation and Montreal Pipe Line Limited parent companies Suncor Energy, Shell Oil Company and Imperial Oil Limited to examine opportunities for repurposing the Portland-Montreal pipeline and related real estate holdings in the State. It requires a report on these efforts be made to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by February 15, 2020.

LD 1464 An Act To Support Electrification of Certain Technologies for the Benefit of Maine Consumers and Utility Systems and the Environment

PUBLIC 365

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RILEY T WOODSOME D	OTP-AM ONTP	H-477

This bill amends provisions in the law regarding the conservation programs of the Efficiency Maine Trust by clarifying that conservation programs seek to increase the efficiency with which electricity is used and defining "beneficial electrification" as the electrification of a technology that would otherwise require energy from a fossil fuel that provides a benefit to a utility, a ratepayer or the environment by improving the efficiency of the electricity grid or reducing consumer costs or emissions, including carbon emissions. The bill also requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to conduct a study regarding the barriers to beneficial electrification of the transportation and heating sectors in the State. Finally, the bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to issue a request for proposals from utilities and entities that are not utilities to conduct a pilot program to support beneficial electrification of the transportation sector of the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-477)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.