

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

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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

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.

Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

1. It clarifies the definition of "beneficial electrification."
2. It clarifies that the Efficiency Maine Trust must conduct the study of barriers to beneficial electrification in consultation with stakeholders, rather than in coordination with the Public Utilities Commission, and specifies that the commission is required to facilitate the trust's access to information the trust requests from electric and gas utilities.
3. It changes certain dates in the bill regarding the timeline for the study of beneficial electrification by the Efficiency Maine Trust and for pilot program proposals to implement beneficial electrification in the transportation sector administered by the Public Utilities Commission.
4. It adds language to clarify the review and selection of proposals for a pilot program for beneficial electrification in the transportation sector.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 365 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 results in reduction of the use of a fossil fuel and 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 law requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to conduct a study in consultation with stakeholders regarding the barriers to beneficial electrification of the transportation and heating sectors in the State and requires the Public Utilities Commission to issue a request for proposals from utilities and entities that are not utilities and review and select proposals to conduct a pilot program to support beneficial electrification of the transportation sector of the State.

LD 1465 An Act To Diversify Maine's Energy Portfolio with Renewable Energy

Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule

Sponsor(s)
HUBBELL B

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill does the following.

1. It increases the portfolio requirement for new renewable resources from 10% to 50% by 2030 and makes several changes to resource eligibility for the requirement to encourage solar generation and highly productive hydropower resources and to provide minimum efficiency standards for biomass resources.
2. It directs the Public Utilities Commission to procure long-term contracts over a five-year period for 800 megawatts of grid-scale renewable resources, 90 megawatts of community-based renewable resources and 135 megawatts of renewable resources owned by commercial and industrial electricity customers. For each of these three types of renewable resources, the bill requires the commission to conduct annual solicitations for the long-term contracts and specifies requirements for the procurement process, resulting contracts and resource qualification.
3. It requires that the Public Utilities Commission rules governing net energy billing allow up to 200 customers to share ownership of an electricity generating facility for net energy billing, allow electricity generating facilities of up to one megawatt installed capacity to qualify for net energy billing and require the commission to review net