

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

**MEMBERS:**

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

REP. SETH A. BERRY, CHAIR  
REP. DEANE RYKERSON  
REP. CHRISTINA RILEY  
REP. CHRISTOPHER JAMES CAIAZZO  
REP. VICTORIA W. DOUDERA  
REP. NICOLE GROHOSKI  
REP. CHRISTOPHER J. KESSLER  
REP. JEFFERY P. HANLEY  
REP. CHAD WAYNE GRIGNON  
REP. STEVEN D. FOSTER

**STAFF:**

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

# STATE OF MAINE

129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



## 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**

guarantees or bond proceeds, high-performance air source heat pumps may be used as the primary heating system without requiring a waiver from the Public Utilities Commission.

**LD 1796      Resolve, To Study Transmission Grid Reliability and Rate Stability in Northern Maine      RESOLVE 71**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEWART T JACKSON T	OTP-AM	H-480

This resolve directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene a stakeholder group to identify and develop strategies to address the transmission grid reliability and electric rate stability for the northern Maine service territory. The Governor's Energy Office is directed to submit a report that includes its findings, together with any proposed implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by December 4, 2019, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-480)**

This amendment changes the reporting date from December 4, 2019 to March 1, 2020.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2019, chapter 71 directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene a stakeholder group to identify and develop strategies to address the transmission grid reliability and electric rate stability for the northern Maine service territory. The Governor's Energy Office is directed to submit a report that includes its findings, together with any proposed implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by March 1, 2020, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

**LD 1800      An Act To Modernize the E-9-1-1 Laws To Include Text Messaging and Other Methods of Contacting E-9-1-1      PUBLIC 339**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S	OTP	

This bill makes changes to the emergency services communication laws to reflect that text messaging and other methods can be used to contact E-9-1-1.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 339 makes changes to the emergency services communication laws to reflect that text messaging and other methods can be used to contact E-9-1-1.

**LD 1844      Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Evaluate the Ownership of Maine's Power Delivery Systems      RESOLVE 107**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
		S-362    LIBBY N

This resolve directs the Public Utilities Commission to evaluate the proposal for creation of the Maine Power Delivery Authority as presented in L.D. 1646, An Act To Restore Local Ownership and Control of Maine's Power Delivery Systems. It requires the commission to contract with an independent consultant or consultants

## *Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology*

with relevant expertise to assist the commission with the evaluation. It requires the commission to submit a report on the evaluation no later than February 15, 2020 that includes results, findings and recommendations and specifies which aspects of the evaluation have been completed and which require further study. The resolve authorizes the commission to use funds from the Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fund to carry out the required evaluation and includes an appropriations and allocations section.

### **Senate Amendment "A" (S-362)**

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2019, chapter 107 directs the Public Utilities Commission to evaluate the proposal for creation of the Maine Power Delivery Authority as presented in L.D. 1646, An Act To Restore Local Ownership and Control of Maine's Power Delivery Systems. It requires the commission to contract with an independent consultant or consultants with relevant expertise to assist the commission with the evaluation. It requires the commission to submit a report on the evaluation no later than February 15, 2020 that includes results, findings and recommendations and specifies which aspects of the evaluation have been completed and which require further study. Finally, the resolve authorizes the commission to use funds from the Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fund to carry out the required evaluation.