

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL AND SECOND REGULAR SESSIONS



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES
AND TECHNOLOGY**

November 2020

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STATE OF MAINE

129TH 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 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 2097 An Act To Establish Requirements for the Construction of Elective
Transmission Lines by Transmission and Distribution Utilities**

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GROHOSKI N LAWRENCE M		

This bill establishes requirements for the approval of construction of elective transmission lines when the party seeking approval from the Public Utilities Commission is a transmission and distribution utility. The bill defines "elective transmission line" as a transmission line that is not being constructed primarily for reliability purposes or to serve retail customers in the State. In addition to meeting the existing requirements in law for approval of a transmission line, a transmission and distribution utility petitioning for commission approval for an elective transmission line is required to demonstrate: that the petitioner provided equal access to rights-of-way and data and information about the petitioner's transmission system to any person seeking to compete with the petitioner to construct the transmission line and that the proposed elective transmission line either will not use ratepayer-funded assets or will use ratepayer-funded assets and the petitioner made these assets available on equal terms to any person seeking to compete with the petitioner to construct the transmission line and agrees to provide a benefit to ratepayers in the State of equal value, as determined by the commission, to the ratepayer-funded assets used to construct the transmission line.

This bill, which had been voted (OTP-A/ONTP) but not yet reported out of committee, was carried over in committee to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.

**LD 2164 Resolve, To Reject the New England Clean Energy Connect
Transmission Project**

CARRIED OVER

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

This resolve, an initiated bill, directs the Public Utilities Commission to amend "Order Granting Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and Approving Stipulation," entered by the Public Utilities Commission on May 3, 2019, for the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) transmission project. The resolve requires that amended order find that the construction and operation of the NECEC transmission project are not in the public interest and that there is not a public need for the NECEC transmission project. Finally, the resolve requires that the amended order deny the request for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the NECEC transmission project.

At adjournment, this resolve had been referred to committee by the House but had been tabled pending consideration by the Senate. This resolve was carried over in the Senate to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.