

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
130<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

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

July 2022

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## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

regulatory or utility planning processes and convening stakeholders to examine related issues. The office must report on its activities, including any findings and recommendations, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utilities matters by February 1, 2023.

### **LD 1107 Resolve, Directing the Maine Connectivity Authority To Take Further Actions To Bring High-speed Broadband to Unserved Areas**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2021, chapter 161 directs the Maine Connectivity Authority to seek to encourage and support regional partnerships among appropriate entities to identify and implement strategies to bring high-speed broadband to unserved areas of the State. By January 15, 2023, the authority must report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters any federally approved plans for funding these strategies, including through the United States Department of the Treasury's Capital Projects Fund or the United States Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program funded by the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

### **LD 1202 An Act To Establish a Wood-fired Combined Heat and Power Program**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 604 establishes the combined heat and power program, administered by the Public Utilities Commission, to encourage the sustainable development of combined heat and power projects that use wood fuel in the State. The law establishes the following with respect to the program:

1. It limits the program to 20 megawatts of net generating capacity across all projects, and the net generating capacity of each individual project may not be less than three megawatts or more than 10 megawatts;
2. It permits the commission to direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to enter into long-term contracts with program participants located within the service territory of each utility for energy, capacity resources or renewable energy credits;
3. It allows consumer-owned transmission and distribution utilities, at their own option, enter into long term contracts for energy, capacity resources or renewable energy credits;
4. It limits long-term contracts entered into under the combined heat and power program to a contract term not greater than 20 years for a contract price may not exceed 10 cents per