

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

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

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

strategic plan to inform the development of offshore wind power projects, has reviewed the ability of state laws and rules to protect Maine's coastal resources from the development of offshore wind energy generation located seaward of the territorial waters and, with input of the advisory board of the Offshore Wind Research Consortium established by this law, has identified the preliminary research questions the consortium seeks to answer regarding the development of offshore wind power projects. It requires the Governor's Energy Office to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utility matters notifying the committee of the completion of these requirements.

This law establishes the Offshore Wind Research Consortium, an initiative of the Governor's Energy Office, to coordinate, support and arrange for the conduct of research on offshore wind power projects in the Gulf of Maine. It requires the Governor's Energy Office, in consultation with independent scientific experts, to establish an advisory board to oversee the development and execution of a research strategy to better understand the local and regional impacts of floating offshore wind power projects in the Gulf of Maine. It specifies the minimum membership that is required on the board and the duties and authority of the board.

It establishes the Offshore Wind Research Consortium Fund as a nonlapsing fund to fund the consortium and the work of the advisory board. It specifies the fund is to be administered by the Governor's Energy Office and the Department of Marine Resources.

Lastly, this law requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, the Public Utilities Commission and the Department of Environmental Protection each to submit by February 1, 2022 legislation necessary to align those provisions of law under their respective jurisdictions with the prohibition on offshore wind power projects.

Public Law 2021, chapter 407 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 6, 2021.

LD 1625 An Act To Increase the Number of Lincolnville Sewer District Trustees from 3 to 5

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 9 increases the number of trustees of the Lincolnville Sewer District from three to five. Two of the new members are alternates who may vote only if a quorum has not yet been reached. It clarifies that two members of the board of trustees of the Lincolnville Sewer District constitutes a quorum.