

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
131<sup>ST</sup> 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**

October 2023

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**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILLS AND  
SUMMARIES OF ENACTED LAWS**

This *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* provides the disposition of all LDs and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular and First Special Sessions of the 131st Maine Legislature. Please note that all LDs and proposed amendments may be found through the Legislature’s webpage, and each includes a summary of what the bill or amendment proposed.

The *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* is arranged alphabetically by committee. Within each committee section is a subject index of all LDs considered by that committee as well as a digest of the LDs, arranged by LD number. Also included are enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed. Brief analyst notes on certain LDs are also included: a committee digest will indicate if additional notes are provided for an LD. These notes add information staff found useful and may provide useful information to users of this *Digest*; please note that most LDs do not have a note and lack of a note should not be interpreted as having any significance. A separate section of the *Digest* provides a digest of the relatively few LDs that were not referred to a committee or reported from a committee as a committee bill; enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed are provided. Finally, an appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

The final disposition of each LD is noted in the relevant summary digest and index. 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 and First Special Sessions of the 131st Legislature is Thursday, June 29, 2023 and Wednesday, October 25, 2023, respectively. 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 925 An Act to Allow the Baileyville Utilities District to Disconnect Water Service for a Customer's Failure to Pay for Sewer Service Provided by the Town of Baileyville**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Private and Special Law 2023, chapter 6 amends the charter for the Baileyville Utilities District to allow the district to disconnect water service for a customer if that same customer fails to pay for sewer service that is provided by the Town of Baileyville if the disconnection is in accordance with procedures established by applicable laws or rules and terms and conditions approved by the Public Utilities Commission. The disconnection is allowed only if the customer whose water service is subject to a disconnection is the same customer who has not paid for sewer service and the water and sewer services are provided to the same location.

### **LD 952 Resolve, to Create a 21st-Century Electric Grid**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 67 directs the Governor's Energy Office to issue a request for proposals to hire a third-party consultant to conduct a two-part study for the design of a distribution system operator in the State. The distribution system operator must be designed to oversee integrated system planning for all electric grids in the State, including coordinating energy planning efforts across state agencies; operate all electric grids in the State to ensure optimum operations, efficiency, equity, reliability and customer service; administer an open and transparent market for distributed energy resources; and facilitate the achievement of the State's greenhouse gas reduction obligations and climate policies. In the consultant's initial study, the consultant must evaluate whether a distribution system operator could be designed to achieve a demonstrable reduction in electricity costs for customers, improved electric system reliability and performance in the State, accelerated achievement of the State's climate goals and growth of distributed energy resources. If the consultant's initial study finds that a distribution system operator could be designed to achieve the required objectives and the office agrees with the consultant's conclusion, the office must authorize the consultant to conduct the second part of the study to create a design proposal.

If the office does not authorize the consultant to conduct the second part of the study, the office must present the initial study to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters within 60 days of the completion of the consultant's initial study.

If the office authorizes the second part of the study to create a design proposal, upon its completion, the office is required to prepare an analysis based on the consultant's design proposal and provide it to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters by January 1, 2025.