MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

 132^{ND} 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

August 2025

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 536 An Act to Establish Net Neutrality

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 404 requires an Internet service provider to provide net neutral service in the provision of broadband Internet access service to customers in the State. The law does not prohibit reasonable efforts by an Internet service provider providing broadband Internet access service to address copyright infringement or other unlawful activity or supersede any obligations, authorizations or restrictions on an Internet service provider to address the needs of emergency communications or law enforcement, public safety or national security authorities. The law specifies that an Internet service provider may offer broadband Internet access service plans that differ in speed or data limits, or offer plans with income-based eligibility, promotional offers or legacy pricing, as long as such plans are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis and are consistent with net neutral service. A violation of the requirements of the law is a violation of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act, except that private remedies under the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act are not available.

LD 568 Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission to Evaluate Different Procurement Methods for Standard-offer Service

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 52 requires the Public Utilities Commission to evaluate differing methods to procure standard-offer service. The commission must consider methods that are likely to result in improved bid quality and quantity, lower electricity rates for customers and electricity rate stability. The commission is required to submit a report regarding its evaluation to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by January 2, 2026, and the committee is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

LD 585 An Act to Use Certain Regional Transmission Organization Payments for Beneficial Electrification to Reduce Electricity Rates

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 45 eliminates the limited time period that previously applied to the directive to assign forward capacity market payments exclusively for heat pumps and adds electric vehicles as an additional eligible use of the forward capacity market funds, while leaving in place the authorization for these funds to be used for heat pumps as well. The law also updates language regarding the allowable use of forward capacity market funds to promote beneficial electrification, to supplement incentives that support beneficial electrification measures and to reliably reduce electricity rates.