

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND 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 810 An Act Regarding the Approval of Transmission Lines

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 340 provides that a high-impact electric transmission line is deemed to have received the majority legislative approval required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3132, subsection 6-C if the high-impact electric transmission line is approved for a contract after a competitive procurement conducted by the Public Utilities Commission or a state agency pursuant to statutory authority granted under Title 35-A.

LD 837 An Act to Require Positions Taken by the Public Advocate to Be Consistent with the Cost-effective Implementation of the State's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Obligations

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 118 requires the Public Advocate, when taking a position on any matter in any proceeding or forum pursuant to the Public Advocate's authority, to exercise independent judgment to ensure that the Public Advocate's position is consistent with the cost-effective implementation for ratepayers of greenhouse gas emissions reductions obligations.

LD 860 An Act to Allow the Public Advocate to Obtain Information from Public Utilities, Competitive Electricity Providers and Standard-offer Service Providers

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 123 amends the duties of the Public Advocate to include the review and investigation of the reasonableness and adequacy of the service or the terms and conditions of such service furnished or proposed to be furnished by any public utility, standard-offer service provider or competitive electricity provider. The law also allows the Public Advocate to make recommendations to the Legislature with respect to its review and investigation.

The law repeals and replaces existing law to clarify existing provisions and adds specific authority for the Public Advocate to petition the Public Utilities Commission for information or data from a public utility, standard-offer service provider or competitive electricity provider that is necessary for the Public Advocate to carry out the purposes of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, chapter 17. To the extent that the information or data would otherwise be confidential pursuant to applicable laws and rules, the Public Advocate, the public utility, standard-offer service provider or competitive electricity provider may request that the commission issue a protective order to protect such information or data from disclosure.

The law also directs the Office of the Public Advocate to conduct a study and prepare a report regarding rates and business practices of standard-offer service providers and competitive