## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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### STATE OF MAINE

 $132^{\text{ND}}$  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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electricity providers. In conducting the study and preparing a report, the office is required to consult with and solicit recommendations from interested parties. The final report must be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by December 3, 2025, and the committee may report out legislation based on the final report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

Public Law 2025, chapter 123 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 29, 2025.

## LD 861 An Act to Prohibit the Public Advocate and a Commissioner of the Public Utilities Commission from Certain Employment Activities Following Service

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 406 prohibits the Public Advocate or a commissioner of the Public Utilities Commission serving or appointed on or after December 15, 2025, until 12 months after the completion of the Public Advocate's or commissioner's service, from soliciting or accepting employment from a public utility. The law also prohibits, until 12 months after the completion of service, a commissioner from appearing before the commission in a proceeding for compensation and the Public Advocate from appearing before the commission in a proceeding for compensation on behalf of a person, other than a state agency or quasi-independent state entity, if that person was a party to an adjudicatory proceeding in which the Public Advocate was a party during the Public Advocate's term of service. The law is enforced by the Office of the Attorney General and an individual who violates the law is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 per occurrence.

#### LD 873 An Act to Expand Municipal Authority over Utility Pole Permits

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 38 authorizes the municipal officers of a municipality having a population of more than 30,000 inhabitants to revoke the location of a utility pole when required for the public safety and welfare.

LD 905 An Act to Clarify the Process to Transfer Funds Resulting from the Expiration of Unused Kilowatt-hour Credits to Be Used to Provide Assistance to Low-income Electricity Customers

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 50 changes the mechanism by which a transmission and distribution utility is required to remit the value of unused kilowatt-hour credits that were accumulated and that expired during the prior calendar year by requiring the utility to remit the value to the administrators of the statewide low-income assistance plan and the individual low-income

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assistance programs instead of to the Public Utilities Commission. The law also changes the date for remittance from January 1st to April 1st and requires that the commission, by rule, adopt provisions regarding the manner by which the transmission and distribution utility must report to the commission information regarding the number of unused kilowatt-hour credits that were accumulated by all customers of the utility with net energy billing arrangements during the prior calendar year and that expired during the prior calendar year and the monetary value of those credits.

#### LD 906 An Act to Update the Solar Energy Development Reporting Date Deadline

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 39 changes the date for the submission of the report from the Public Utilities Commission regarding the monitoring of the level of solar energy development in the State.

### LD 912 An Act to Limit the Amount of Electricity That May Be Provided to Data Centers on a Certain Commercial or Industrial Site

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 85 amends an existing statutory exception to the definition of "transmission and distribution utility" for certain entities on commercial or industrial sites to provide that an entity that otherwise would qualify for the exception must be located within the control area of the New England independent system operator in a municipality north of the Town of Chester and may not use more than 25% of its nameplate capacity to serve data centers located on the commercial or industrial site.

Public Law 2025, chapter 85 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 23, 2025.

### LD 946 Resolve, to Increase Access to Energy Efficiency Programs by Low-income and Moderate-income Residents

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2025, chapter 53 requires the Efficiency Maine Trust, during the period of the trust's 6th triennial plan, to ensure that at least one-half of all available funding for electric vehicle rebates is distributed to low-income and moderate-income residents of the State and at least one-half of all available funding for incentives for weatherization and heat pumps for dwellings in the State is distributed for low-income and moderate-income residents of this State.