

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
132<sup>ND</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**

August 2025

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any purchased power supply costs from this formula. The law allows the Public Utilities Commission to authorize a consumer-owned utility to keep a contingency reserve fund to reflect an amount greater than a 35% addition to yearly revenues over the amount required to operate the utility.

**LD 1436 An Act to Update and Clarify Provisions Related to 9-1-1 Services**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 167 makes the following changes to the statutory provisions related to 9-1-1 services.

1. It updates and adds terminology to be consistent with modernized 9-1-1 systems and federal standards.
2. It clarifies rule-making authority by designating the Public Utilities Commission as the entity responsible for rulemaking instead of the Emergency Services Communication Bureau within the commission and makes all rulemaking under the emergency services communication laws routine technical.
3. It reorganizes the provisions of law related to 9-1-1 funding.
4. It expands the granting authority of the bureau to allow grants, subject to available funds, to be used to consolidate two or more public safety answering points and dispatch centers into a new regional public safety answering point and dispatch center or transfer a public safety answering point and all of its dispatch services to another existing public safety answering point. It also changes the allowable funding cap for nonrecurring costs to \$1,000,000 per biennium.
5. It removes the requirement that the bureau reimburse local exchange carriers and cellular and wireless telecommunications service providers for eligible expenses incurred by the carriers and service providers.
6. It removes the requirement regarding the inclusion of 9-1-1 information in telephone directories.
7. It expands the application of provisions related to the information required to be provided to the commission in order to maintain the 9-1-1 database and services and the coordination of 9-1-1 service from local exchange carriers only to originating service providers.
8. It changes the definition of “cellular or wireless telecommunications service” in current law to clarify that required timing of the payment does not affect whether a service meets the definition of “cellular or wireless telecommunications service.”

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9. It specifies that the statewide 9-1-1 surcharge must be shown on a customer's bill separately when practicable, and, when disclosure is not practicable, the local exchange telephone utility, cellular or wireless telecommunications service provider or interconnected voice over Internet protocol service provider is required to make the information regarding the amount of the surcharge available to the customer in another manner.

**LD 1473 An Act to Require Gas Utilities to Assess for Natural Gas Leaks and to Require Reporting of Gas Leak Information**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 217 requires a gas utility to assess its natural gas system, including every natural gas main and meter under its jurisdiction, as frequently as may be required by the Public Utilities Commission by rule, but no less frequently than every three years. The law requires gas utilities to provide reports to the commission at a frequency as established by the commission by rule, regarding the number of natural gas leaks identified by the gas utility, the street location for the natural gas leaks and the actions taken by the gas utility to address the natural gas leaks. The law also requires the commission to file an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utility matters regarding natural gas leaks reported by gas utilities and to include natural gas leak reports on its publicly accessible website. The commission is required to periodically assess gas utility compliance with the assessment and reporting requirements of the law.

**LD 1619 Resolve, to Direct the Governor's Energy Office to Solicit Information Regarding the Creation of a Thermal Energy Networks Program in Maine**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2025, chapter 67 directs the Governor's Energy Office to issue a request for information regarding the creation of a thermal energy networks program in the State. When issuing the request for information, the office is required to solicit information from stakeholders regarding various considerations related to the development of a thermal energy networks program. By January 15, 2026, in consultation with the Efficiency Maine Trust and the Public Advocate, the office must prepare a summary report regarding the information received by the office and submit the report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. The office may develop and include in the report recommendations regarding the development of a thermal energy networks program in the State.