

STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES
AND TECHNOLOGY**

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Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

LD 13 An Act To Allow Microgrids That Are in the Public Interest

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DEVIN M		

This bill directs the Public Utilities Commission to approve a petition to construct and operate a new microgrid if the commission finds the proposal to be in the public interest and the new microgrid meets other specified requirements. It provides the commission with the ability to impose such terms, conditions or requirements as, in its judgment, it considers necessary in approving a new microgrid and also gives the commission oversight to ensure reliability and security of the electrical system and consumer protections for new microgrid consumers. It specifies that a new microgrid does not become a public utility as a result of its furnishing electrical service to participating consumers. It provides that a new microgrid that has been approved by the commission may construct, maintain or operate its lines in, upon, along, over, across or under the roads and streets. The bill directs the Public Utilities Commission to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utility matters by January 15, 2021.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 31 An Act Regarding Rules Adopted by the ConnectME Authority

PUBLIC 2

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S WOODSOME D	OTP	

This bill changes the designation of rules adopted by the ConnectME Authority from major substantive to routine technical.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 2 changes the designation of rules adopted by the ConnectME Authority from major substantive to routine technical.

LD 41 An Act To Replace Net Energy Billing with a Market-based Mechanism

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'CONNOR B TIMBERLAKE J	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill makes several changes regarding net energy billing. It allows an eligible customer to elect net energy billing until December 31, 2019, after which time no new net energy billing arrangements may be allowed. It allows net energy billing arrangements entered into prior to December 31, 2019 to remain in effect until December 31, 2034. It prohibits a transmission and distribution utility from requiring a customer to meter the gross output of an eligible facility in order to participate in net energy billing. It limits to 50 the number of eligible customers that may participate in a single shared interest in an eligible facility or the number of meters associated with a single shared

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interest, except in the service territory of a transmission and distribution utility located in an area administered by the independent system administrator for northern Maine.

The bill also establishes a market-based crediting system for energy generated by eligible facilities. It requires the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules to allow an eligible customer to receive a monetary credit for energy generated by an eligible facility in excess of the customer's usage and exported to the grid at the real-time wholesale market price of that energy. As in the provisions relating to net energy billing, a transmission and distribution utility is prohibited from requiring a customer to meter the gross output of an eligible facility in order to participate in the crediting system, and the number of eligible customers that may participate in a single shared interest in an eligible facility, or the number of meters associated with a single shared interest, is limited to 50. The bill exempts a transmission and distribution utility located in an area administered by the independent system administrator for northern Maine, or any successor of the independent system administrator for northern Maine, from using this crediting system until the Public Utilities Commission determines the utility's billing system can perform the necessary functions to implement the system. It requires the commission to consider whether an alternative system to the crediting system for northern Maine could be developed and utilized in the interim period before the utility's billing system is modified to allow a market-based crediting system.

It requires the Public Utilities Commission to procure, to the maximum extent possible, 20 megawatts of large-scale community solar distributed generation resources. It requires that the contract rate be calculated annually and that no contract may be for more than 6¢ per kilowatt-hour or the average wholesale electricity rate over the preceding 12 months, whichever is less.

Lastly, it requires the Public Utilities Commission to conduct an analysis of the costs and benefits to ratepayers for both net energy billing and the market-based crediting system in an adjudicatory proceeding and to report those findings to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters no later than January 1, 2021.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-107)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment does the following.

1. It changes the end date of eligibility to elect net energy billing from December 31, 2019 to December 31, 2020.
2. It allows net energy billing arrangements entered into prior to December 31, 2020 to remain in effect until December 31, 2035.
3. It limits to 100, rather than 50 in the bill, the number of eligible customers that may participate in a single shared interest in an eligible facility or the number of meters associated with a single shared interest under net energy billing and under the market-based crediting system.
4. It clarifies the exceptions in the bill for northern Maine to specify that the exception applies to the portion of a transmission and distribution utility's service territory that is in an area administered by the independent system administrator for northern Maine.
5. It removes the cap in the bill of 6¢ per kilowatt-hour or the average wholesale electricity rate over the preceding 12 months, whichever is less, on the long-term contract rate for large-scale community solar distributed generation resources.
6. It requires the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules to implement the long-term contracts for community solar distributed generation resources. It requires that these rules include provisions to protect electricity customers from any shift of responsibility for transmission and distribution utility costs between customers that arises as a result of community solar distributed generation resources.

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This amendment was not adopted.

LD 68 An Act To Improve the Record Keeping of Utilities and the Public Utilities Commission

PUBLIC 26

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARSON B	OTP-AM	S-12

This bill amends the law governing the record-keeping requirements of the Public Utilities Commission. Current law requires that the commission maintain a complete record of proceedings, investigations and formal public hearings. The bill adds the requirement to maintain a record of complaints. It also specifies that the required records be permanently maintained and include results and conclusions, including orders, findings, decisions and settlement agreements. Finally, the bill requires the commission, upon request of a public utility customer, to reconstruct, to the extent possible, the record of a proceeding, investigation, formal public hearing or complaint that was disposed of prior to the requirement that a permanent record be maintained.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-12)

This amendment makes two changes to the bill. First, it adds a provision to the bill to require public utilities to preserve records of customer complaints for a period of 10 years and to make records of customer complaints readily available to the Public Utilities Commission for examination. Second, the amendment removes the provision of the bill that requires the Public Utilities Commission to reconstruct past records of proceedings, investigations, public hearings and complaints.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 26 amends the law governing the record-keeping requirements of the Public Utilities Commission to add the requirement that the commission maintain records of complaints and to specify that records must be permanently maintained and include results and conclusions, including orders, findings, decisions and settlement agreements. The law also requires public utilities to preserve records of customer complaints for a period of 10 years and to make records of customer complaints readily available to the Public Utilities Commission for examination.

LD 91 An Act To Eliminate Gross Metering

PUBLIC 16

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S WOODSOME D	OTP ONTP	S-4 LAWRENCE M

This bill clarifies the definition of "net energy billing." It requires the Public Utilities Commission, within 60 days of this legislation becoming effective, to amend its net energy billing rules adopted pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3209-A to be substantively equivalent to the rules in effect on January 1, 2017. It provides that all customers that entered into a net energy billing arrangement on or after March 29, 2017 are governed by the rules that are to be adopted pursuant to this legislation.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-4)

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 16 clarifies the definition of "net energy billing." It requires the Public Utilities

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Commission, within 60 days of this legislation becoming effective, to amend its net energy billing rules adopted pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3209-A to be substantively equivalent to the rules in effect on January 1, 2017. It provides that all customers that entered into a net energy billing arrangement on or after March 29, 2017 are governed by the rules that are to be adopted pursuant to this legislation.

LD 143 An Act To Protect Electric Ratepayers from Gross Output Metering Costs

Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HUBBELL B		

This bill prohibits a transmission and distribution utility from requiring a customer to meter the gross output of a facility for net energy billing purposes and from requiring a customer to have a meter installed to measure gross output in order to participate in net energy billing. The bill requires that a net energy billing customer be credited for kilowatt-hours exported from an eligible facility at the total retail rate for electricity. It allows a transmission and distribution utility to collect data on gross output only if a meter to measure gross output was installed prior to the effective date of this legislation. Finally, it requires the Public Utilities Commission to amend its rules to conform with the changes made in this legislation within 90 days of the effective date.

LD 147 An Act To Extend Internet Availability in Rural Maine

**PUBLIC 52
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALLEY R MOORE M	OTP-AM	H-43

This bill provides one-time funding for two years for a program that provides mobile wireless hot spot devices to libraries in Washington County.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-43)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment adds language to the law governing the telecommunications education access fund to:

1. Specify that the use of the fund for Internet access includes mobile Internet access through a portable wireless access point, or hotspot, that provides Internet access over a cellular network; and
2. Add a guideline for allocation of money from the fund to provide, within existing resources, support for qualified libraries in rural areas of the State with greatest need, as determined in consultation with the State Librarian, the Commissioner of Education and the ConnectME Authority, to offer portable wireless access points, or hotspots, for mobile Internet access.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 52 amends the law governing the telecommunications education access fund to:

1. Specify that the use of the fund for Internet access includes mobile Internet access through a portable wireless access point, or hotspot, that provides Internet access over a cellular network; and
2. Add a guideline for allocation of money from the fund to provide, within existing resources, support for

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qualified libraries in rural areas of the State with greatest need, as determined in consultation with the State Librarian, the Commissioner of Education and the ConnectME Authority, to offer portable wireless access points, or hotspots, for mobile Internet access.

Public Law 2019, chapter 52 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 23, 2019.

LD 173 An Act To Promote Economic Development and Critical Communications for Family Farms, Businesses and Residences by Strategic Public Investment in High-speed Internet CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCREA D CARSON B		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to increase funding to the ConnectME Authority from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000 to expand universal broadband and high-speed Internet into rural areas identified as the 6% of the State unserved by high-speed Internet. This bill proposes to make expanding high-speed Internet into unserved rural areas a key emphasis in the economic development of and to multiply the return to the State by directing the ConnectME Authority to use the increased funding to increase the rate of strategic broadband investment and leverage additional federal funding to provide middle-mile and last-mile infrastructure in the unserved areas and to correct broadband deficiencies identified in the ConnectME Authority's baseline update of 2013.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 196 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 320: Electric Transmission and Distribution Utility Service Standards, a Major Substantive Rule of the Public Utilities Commission RESOLVE 19 EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-75

This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 320: Electric Transmission and Distribution Utility Service Standards, a major substantive rule of the Public Utilities Commission.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-75)

This amendment allows for the final adoption of portions of Chapter 320: Electric Transmission and Distribution Utility Service Standards, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Public Utilities Commission, as long as the commission amends the rule to require:

1. Utilities to keep all records required by the rule for 10 years, rather than 6 years; and
2. Each investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to maintain and report the System Average Interruption Duration Index in addition to other metrics required.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 19 allows for the final adoption of portions of Chapter 320: Electric Transmission and Distribution Utility Service Standards, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Public Utilities Commission, as long as the commission amends the rule to require:

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1. Utilities to keep all records required by the rule for 10 years, rather than 6 years; and
2. Each investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to maintain and report the System Average Interruption Duration Index in addition to other metrics required.

Resolve 2019, chapter 19 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 30, 2019.

LD 224 An Act To Fund the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access ONTP
Fund

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HIGGINS N BELLOWS S	ONTP	

This bill provides funds to the ConnectME Authority to be used to provide grants to municipalities for high-speed broadband infrastructure development and improvement.

LD 271 An Act Regarding a Transmission and Distribution Utility's Use of the ONTP
Right of Eminent Domain To Locate Its Transmission Lines

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MIRAMANT D EVANGELOS J	ONTP	

This bill withholds the right of eminent domain from a transmission and distribution utility for lands or easements to be acquired for an elective transmission upgrade that is not required for reliability of service to customers in the State or the ISO-New England region.

LD 273 An Act To Require Transmission and Distribution Utilities To Purchase ONTP
Electricity from Renewable Resources at Certain Prices

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MIRAMANT D	ONTP	

This bill requires a transmission and distribution utility, at the request of the owner of a renewable resource, to purchase the electricity generated by that renewable resource at a price per kilowatt-hour that is 50% of the average cost per kilowatt-hour to generate electricity using a fossil fuel in this State.

LD 334 An Act To Change the Definition of "Renewable Capacity Resource" ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BABINE S CHIPMAN B	ONTP	

This bill aligns the definition of "renewable capacity resource" with that of "renewable resource" in the laws governing renewable energy by adding generators fueled by municipal solid waste in conjunction with recycling to the definition of "renewable capacity resource."

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LD 346 An Act To Amend the Brunswick Sewer District Charter

P & S 1

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUCKER R	OTP	

This bill amends the Brunswick Sewer District Charter to allow the district to charge readiness to serve rates consistent with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1048. The bill also amends the charter to allow the treasurer of the district, when authorized by the trustees, to waive the district's right to foreclose on a lien mortgage established by the district on an individual's property, consistent with Title 38, section 1049. The bill provides the form that must be followed for filing the waiver.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2019, chapter 1 amends the Brunswick Sewer District Charter to allow the district to charge readiness to serve rates consistent with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1048. The law also amends the charter to allow the treasurer of the district, when authorized by the trustees, to waive the district's right to foreclose on a lien mortgage established by the district on an individual's property, consistent with Title 38, section 1049, and provides the form that must be followed for filing the waiver.

LD 347 An Act To Provide Sustainable Funding for Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

PUBLIC 423

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DECHANT J VITELLI E	OTP-AM ONTP	H-206

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to provide ongoing funding for improvements to water and wastewater infrastructure statewide, including, but not limited to, funding to support the State Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Fund established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 6006-H.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-206)

This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. The amendment does the following.

1. It amends the law governing the use of the Liquor Operation Revenue Fund after all liquor operation revenue bonds and any ancillary obligations secured by the fund have been retired to provide additional funding for water and wastewater infrastructure. Specifically, while current law provides a maximum of 15% of funds available after retirement of the bonds be used for matching funds for federal programs for drinking water and wastewater systems, the amendment provides 30% of funds after bond retirement be designated for drinking water and wastewater purposes. The amendment divides the 30% between drinking water and wastewater at 45% and 55% respectively. For both drinking water and wastewater the amendment provides the funds first be used for the state match for federal funds for revolving loans.
2. It amends the law governing the State Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Fund and the Maine Clean Water Fund to allow the funds to be used to provide assistance for capital investment in private and commercial wastewater systems.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 423 amends the law governing the use of the Liquor Operation Revenue Fund after all

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liquor operation revenue bonds and any ancillary obligations secured by the fund have been retired to provide additional funding for water and wastewater infrastructure. Specifically, while current law provides a maximum of 15% of funds available after retirement of the bonds be used for matching funds for federal programs for drinking water and wastewater systems, this law provides 30% of funds after bond retirement be designated for drinking water and wastewater purposes. It divides the 30% between drinking water and wastewater at 45% and 55% respectively and provides, for both drinking water and wastewater, the funds first be used for the state match for federal funds for revolving loans. This law also amends the law governing the State Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Fund and the Maine Clean Water Fund to allow the funds to be used to provide assistance for capital investment in private and commercial wastewater systems.

LD 372 An Act To Increase the Safety of Maine Residents in Extended Power Outages PUBLIC 120

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCREIGHT J GUERIN S	OTP-AM	H-171

This bill allows a municipality, in the event of a power outage of five or more days, to hire appropriately licensed professionals to address power, telephone and similar lines that have been felled by weather events and that are preventing access to roadways within the municipality. It allows a municipality to apply to receive compensation from the local electric utility, the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Emergency Management Agency, the United States Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency or another funding source.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-171)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment establishes requirements for an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to establish emergency response plans for recovery and restoration in response to an event where widespread outages have occurred due to weather events or other causes beyond the utility's control. It requires that the prioritization process under the plan follow the statewide comprehensive emergency management plan and include consideration of steps to ensure safety of electric facilities, road opening and service restoration. The amendment requires the plan to detail a coordinated approach that includes: priorities for emergency response and service restoration, staffing, communication and coordination with emergency management agencies, customer communications, resource deployment and safety.

The amendment requires each investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to file the emergency response plan with the Public Utilities Commission on a biannual basis and to provide a copy of the plan to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Emergency Management Agency. The amendment allows the commission to designate portions of the emergency response plan as confidential through the issuance of a protective order.

The amendment also authorizes the commission to open an investigation to review the emergency response performance of an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility after an emergency event. If the commission, through investigation, finds that the utility failed to implement its emergency response plan in a prudent manner, the commission is required to take action to remedy the failure, which may include denying the recovery through rates of the costs of emergency response and service restoration.

Finally, the amendment requires the commission to include in its annual report to the Legislature information regarding its activities and the performance of investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities in relation to emergency response plans.

Enacted Law Summary

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Public Law 2019, chapter 120 establishes requirements for an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to establish emergency response plans for recovery and restoration in response to an event where widespread outages have occurred due to weather events or other causes beyond the utility's control. It requires that the prioritization process under the plan follow the statewide comprehensive emergency management plan and include consideration of steps to ensure safety of electric facilities, road opening and service restoration. It requires the plan to detail a coordinated approach that includes: priorities for emergency response and service restoration, staffing, communication and coordination with emergency management agencies, customer communications, resource deployment and safety.

The law also requires each investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to file the emergency response plan with the Public Utilities Commission on a biannual basis and to provide a copy of the plan to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Emergency Management Agency, and it allows the commission to designate portions of the emergency response plan as confidential through the issuance of a protective order. It also authorizes the commission to open an investigation to review the emergency response performance of an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility after an emergency event. If the commission, through investigation, finds that the utility failed to implement its emergency response plan in a prudent manner, the commission is required to take action to remedy the failure, which may include denying the recovery through rates of the costs of emergency response and service restoration.

Finally, the law requires the commission to include in its annual report to the Legislature information regarding its activities and the performance of investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities in relation to emergency response plans.

**LD 383 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101:
ConnectME Authority, a Major Substantive Rule of the ConnectME
Authority**

**RESOLVE 21
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

OTP-AM

H-74

This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 101: ConnectME Authority, a major substantive rule of the ConnectME Authority.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-74)

This amendment allows for the final adoption of portions of Chapter 101: ConnectME Authority, a major substantive rule of the ConnectME Authority, as long as the ConnectME Authority amends the rule to clarify the definition of advanced communications technology infrastructure.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 21 allows for the final adoption of portions of Chapter 101: ConnectME Authority, a major substantive rule of the ConnectME Authority, as long as the ConnectME Authority amends the rule to clarify the definition of advanced communications technology infrastructure.

Resolve 2019, chapter 21 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 30, 2019.

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LD 398 An Act To Allow for Greater Flexibility in Addressing Energy Efficiency Needs in the State PUBLIC 69

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KESSLER C CLAXTON N	OTP-AM	H-73

This bill removes from law the requirement that the Efficiency Maine Trust allocate 50% of the funds in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund for residential programs and 50% for commercial and industrial programs.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-73)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 69 removes from law the requirement that the Efficiency Maine Trust allocate 50% of the funds in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund for residential programs and 50% for commercial and industrial programs.

LD 432 An Act To Amend the Greater Augusta Utility District Charter CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WARREN C POULIOT M		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to make technical changes to the charter of the Greater Augusta Utility District to accommodate the district's growth and change in services and to change its voting membership.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 434 An Act To Price Carbon Pollution in Maine ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RYKERSON D MIRAMANT D	ONTP	

This bill requires an assessment on the carbon content of fuels sold by a distributor in the State. The bill defines "distributor" and requires a distributor to submit on a monthly basis the required assessment to the Public Utilities Commission. The commission is required to transfer any assessment it receives to the Carbon Content Assessment Fund, which the bill establishes. The bill requires the commission at the end of each fiscal year to transfer funds from the fund to transmission and distribution utilities in the State. The funds are to be used to reduce the rates of those utilities' customers in a manner that is equitable and that provides maximum benefit to the economy of the State. The bill gives the commission the authority to review the books and records of a distributor and to impose an administrative penalty if necessary. It requires the commission to adopt routine technical rules.

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**LD 581 An Act To Direct Electric Utilities To Provide Comparative Usage Data
on Customer Billing Statements**

PUBLIC 81

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RISEMAN W MIRAMANT D	OTP-AM	H-108

This bill requires a transmission and distribution utility to provide on the utility's billing statement to a customer information concerning the previous 24 months of the customer's energy usage comparing same-month usage data between the first year of usage and the second year of usage.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-108)

This amendment limits the applicability of the requirements of the bill to investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities, rather than all transmission and distribution utilities, and to customer bills for residential, small commercial and medium commercial customers, rather than all customers. The amendment also allows the Public Utilities Commission to waive the requirements if it finds these requirements to be unduly burdensome or cost-prohibitive for an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility for the portion of the utility's service territory located in an area of this State in which the retail market is administered by the independent system administrator for northern Maine.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 81 requires an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to provide on the utility's billing statement to a residential, small commercial or medium commercial customer information concerning the previous 24 months of the customer's energy usage comparing same-month usage data between the first year of usage and the second year of usage. It allows the Public Utilities Commission to waive these requirements if it finds they are unduly burdensome or cost-prohibitive for an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility for the portion of the utility's service territory located in an area of this State in which the retail market is administered by the independent system administrator for northern Maine.

LD 614 An Act To Increase Electric Vehicles in Maine

PUBLIC 258

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
INGWERSEN H	OTP-AM ONTP	H-300

This bill establishes an electric vehicle rebate program to be administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust that beginning July 1, 2020, allows a person who purchases or leases an eligible battery electric vehicle to apply for and, as resources allow, receive a direct rebate of \$2,500 if the person meets certain eligibility criteria. The bill also provides a General Fund appropriation of \$500,000 to support the direct rebates to be made available under the program.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-300)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, makes the following changes to the electric vehicle rebate program and the associated fund established in the bill:

1. Adds plug-in hybrid electric vehicles to the definition of eligible electric vehicle;
2. Removes the requirement that an eligible vehicle be a "new" vehicle;

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- 3. Limits the \$50,000 cap on the manufacturer's suggested retail price to vehicles that have a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less;
- 4. Removes the program start date of July 1, 2020;
- 5. Removes the fixed rebate amount of \$2,500 and instead requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to determine the rebate amount, which may vary by the size of the vehicle battery. It also permits the trust to establish different rebate amounts to provide opportunities for participation in the program across different customer groups and geographic areas;
- 6. Revises the eligibility criteria regarding registration of a vehicle in the State;
- 7. Adds language to specify that the trust may set limits on the number of rebates per person or per vehicle;
- 8. Removes the provision of the bill that provides a \$500,000 General Fund appropriation to the Electric Vehicle Rebate Fund; and
- 9. Establishes the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Fund, administered by Efficiency Maine Trust, to increase the availability and effectiveness of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 258 establishes an electric vehicle rebate program to be administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust. It requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to determine the rebate amount, which may vary by the size of the vehicle battery and permits the trust to establish different rebate amounts to provide opportunities for participation in the program across different customer groups and geographic areas. This law also establishes the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Fund, administered by Efficiency Maine Trust, to increase the availability and effectiveness of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the State.

LD 658 Resolve, To Increase Energy Independence for Maine

RESOLVE 30

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HUBBELL B DOW D	OTP-AM	H-170

This resolve directs the Governor's Energy Office to adopt a 10-year energy independence plan, including conservation and renewable energy strategies, for the State to become a net exporter of energy by 2030. It requires the office to develop the plan through a collaborative stakeholder process. The plan must be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by December 31, 2019 along with suggested legislation necessary to implement the plan. The resolve authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the plan.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-170)

This amendment replaces the resolve. The amendment directs the Governor's Energy Office, in coordination with the development of the state energy plan or other planning initiatives, to conduct an analysis for at least one scenario for the State to become a net exporter of energy by 2030 through the development and expansion of energy generating capacity, energy conservation and energy efficiency at levels sufficient to offset the total value of the State's domestic energy consumption across all sectors. The amendment requires the Governor's Energy Office to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by December 31, 2019 on progress regarding the state energy plan and the analysis for the State to become a net exporter of energy.

Enacted Law Summary

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Resolve 2019, chapter 30 directs the Governor's Energy Office, in coordination with the development of the state energy plan or other planning initiatives, to conduct an analysis for at least one scenario for the State to become a net exporter of energy by 2030 through the development and expansion of energy generating capacity, energy conservation and energy efficiency at levels sufficient to offset the total value of the State's domestic energy consumption across all sectors. The resolve requires the Governor's Energy Office to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by December 31, 2019 on progress regarding the state energy plan and the analysis for the State to become a net exporter of energy.

LD 674 Resolve, Regarding Implementation and Funding of E-9-1-1 Dispatch Protocols

RESOLVE 24

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RILEY T WOODSOME D	OTP-AM	H-100

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to enact measures designed to upgrade the State's E-9-1-1 system in accordance with certain recommendations contained in the report related to standardized dispatch protocols for police 9-1-1 calls that was presented to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology on January 15, 2019 by the Maine Public Utilities Commission.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-100)

This amendment replaces the bill, which was a concept draft. The amendment directs the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communications Bureau to convene a stakeholder group to develop recommendations regarding emergency dispatch protocols and use of the E-9-1-1 fund to support standardized dispatch protocol implementation. The amendment requires the stakeholder group to examine and make recommendations regarding: the use of the E-9-1-1 fund to cover costs associated with the implementation of standardized dispatch protocols and related requirements; issues related to the adoption and implementation of protocols for fire 9-1-1 calls and medical 9-1-1 calls; and potential future implementation of dispatch protocols for police 9-1-1 protocols on a mandatory or voluntary basis. The amendment requires the bureau to submit a report detailing the recommendations of the stakeholder group to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by November 1, 2019 and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 24 directs the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communications Bureau to convene a stakeholder group to develop recommendations regarding emergency dispatch protocols and use of the E-9-1-1 fund to support standardized dispatch protocol implementation. It requires the stakeholder group to examine and make recommendations regarding: the use of the E-9-1-1 fund to cover costs associated with the implementation of standardized dispatch protocols and related requirements; issues related to the adoption and implementation of protocols for fire 9-1-1 calls and medical 9-1-1 calls; and potential future implementation of dispatch protocols for police 9-1-1 protocols on a mandatory or voluntary basis. The resolve also requires the bureau to submit a report detailing the recommendations of the stakeholder group to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by November 1, 2019 and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report.

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LD 694 An Act To Amend the Charter of the Town of Madison's Department of Electric Works P & S 4

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FARRIN B CURTIS P	OTP	

This bill replaces language in the charter of Town of Madison's Department of Electric Works regarding bonding authority to provide that it is the Department of Electric Works that issues bonds for its purposes and not the Town of Madison. The bill also removes the \$1,200,000 cap in the charter on the issuance of bonds or notes for current operating expenses.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2019, chapter 4 replaces language in the charter of Town of Madison's Department of Electric Works regarding bonding authority to provide that it is the Department of Electric Works that issues bonds for its purposes and not the Town of Madison. This law also removes the \$1,200,000 cap in the charter on the issuance of bonds or notes for current operating expenses.

LD 743 An Act To Create Local Options in E-9-1-1 Protocol Mandates ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLUME L	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to enact certain measures designed to allow for increased flexibility in emergency dispatch protocols. Currently, structured, standardized call-taking processes are implemented to assess a caller's condition, scene information and the appropriate response to dispatch to the emergency. This bill would examine: whether protocol-based call-taking processes result, in certain instances, in delays in emergency response and the need for additional staffing; the extent to which the use of protocols improves or impedes the delivery of emergency services; any outstanding issues associated with appropriate and effective training in the use of emergency dispatch protocols; and the costs associated with the implementation of standardized police dispatch protocols that are borne by municipalities.

LD 754 An Act To Ensure the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund Continues To Promote Energy Efficiency and Benefit Maine Ratepayers Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WADSWORTH N FOLEY R	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill reestablishes a ceiling on energy efficiency spending from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund that was repealed in 2013. The bill provides for transfers from the trust fund to Maine-based energy-intensive businesses, in addition to transfers to affected customers; requires that funds over a certain amount be distributed to ratepayers; and authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to adopt implementing rules.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-207)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It adds an appropriations and allocations section to allow

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expenditure of money for disbursements to affected customers, energy-intensive businesses and ratepayers.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 790 An Act To Eliminate the Cap on the Number of Accounts or Meters Designated for Net Energy Billing CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MIRAMANT D EVANGELOS J		

This bill prohibits the Public Utilities Commission from adopting or amending net energy billing rules pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3209-A to impose any limit on the number of accounts or meters that customers may designate for net energy billing or any limit on the number of customers that may share an interest in a generation facility for which the energy output is credited as part of any net energy billing.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 807 An Act Regarding the Duties of the Public Advocate PUBLIC 71

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MIRAMANT D NADEAU C	OTP-AM	S-38

This bill removes an exception to the Public Advocate's ability to petition to initiate, or intervene and appear in, any proceedings before the Public Utilities Commission, appeals from orders of the commission or proceedings before state and federal agencies and courts in which the subject matter of the action affects the customers of any utility or competitive service provider doing business in the State. Specifically, it removes the prohibition against the Public Advocate's intervening in any proceedings in which commission staff is representing a position substantially similar to that of the Public Advocate.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-38)

This amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill. It provides an allocation to fund additional staff activities related to the expansion of the Office of the Public Advocate's duties in proceedings before the Public Utilities Commission and other state and federal agencies and courts.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 71 removes an exception to the Public Advocate's ability to petition to initiate, or intervene and appear in, any proceedings before the Public Utilities Commission, appeals from orders of the commission or proceedings before state and federal agencies and courts in which the subject matter of the action affects the customers of any utility or competitive service provider doing business in the State. Specifically, it removes the prohibition against the Public Advocate's intervening in any proceedings in which commission staff is representing a position substantially similar to that of the Public Advocate.

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**LD 832 An Act To Expand Options for Consumers of Cable Television in
Purchasing Individual Channels and Programs**

PUBLIC 308

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EVANGELOS J BLACK R	OTP ONTP	

This bill requires that cable television system operators offer subscribers the option of purchasing access to cable channels or programs on cable channels individually.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 308 requires that cable television system operators offer subscribers the option of purchasing access to cable channels or programs on cable channels individually.

LD 834 An Act To Establish Minimum Service Standards for Electric Utilities

PUBLIC 104

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HIGGINS N	OTP-AM	H-109

This bill proposes to establish service interruption standards and require transmission and distribution utilities that do not meet these standards to take corrective action. The bill directs the Public Utilities Commission to require, by rule, transmission and distribution utilities to keep records and report service interruptions to the commission. It also requires a utility that experiences service interruptions at a rate that exceeds the statewide average service interruption rate by 50% or more to submit a plan for, implement and track corrective actions to address the service interruptions.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-109)

The amendment changes the provision in the bill regarding the metrics for evaluating service interruptions for transmission and distribution utilities and the threshold for requiring corrective action. Rather than calculating a statewide average service interruption rate and establishing the threshold for corrective action at 50% above that statewide average, as in the bill, the amendment requires the Public Utilities Commission by rule to set standards regarding the frequency and duration of service interruptions, establish performance targets and specify guidelines for requiring corrective action by a utility. The amendment authorizes the commission to exempt transmission and distribution utilities serving 50,000 or fewer customers from rules regarding service interruption reporting and standards.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 104 directs the Public Utilities Commission to require, by rule, transmission and distribution utilities to keep records and report service interruptions to the commission. It requires the commission to set standards regarding the frequency and duration of service interruptions, establish performance targets and specify guidelines for requiring corrective action by a utility and authorizes the commission to exempt transmission and distribution utilities serving 50,000 or fewer customers from rules regarding service interruption reporting and standards.

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LD 912 An Act To Establish the Wood Energy Investment Program

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T FECTEAU R	OTP-AM	S-193

This bill establishes the wood energy investment fund and creates the Wood Energy Investment Program within the Efficiency Maine Trust. The bill specifies that, if the Public Utilities Commission finds that an entity awarded a contract for biomass resources pursuant to Public Law 2015, chapter 483 is not meeting contract requirements and therefore is not qualified to receive the full contract payment or any contract payment, those funds that would have been paid had contract requirements been met must be transferred to the wood energy investment fund. It also specifies that any funds remaining in the cost recovery fund established in Public Law 2015, chapter 483, section 1, subsection 5 that are not needed to pay above-market costs for biomass resources must also be transferred by the Public Utilities Commission to the wood energy investment fund. It requires the trust to use funds from the fund, if there are any, to provide incentives and low-interest or no-interest loans for new wood-derived thermal energy or cogeneration projects. It requires that the trust consult with the Finance Authority of Maine, when appropriate, in the development of any Wood Energy Investment Program incentives and the distribution of money from the wood energy investment fund. It prohibits the use of funds for incentives or loans for the refurbishment or maintenance of existing facilities.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-193)

This amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section. The amendment allocates funds to establish the Wood Energy Fund within the Efficiency Maine Trust.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over in the Senate to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 918 An Act Regarding Utility Line Extensions

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KEIM L BERRY S	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill proposes to require transmission and distribution utilities to share the cost of utility line extensions to subdivision developments. The bill directs the Public Utilities Commission, by rule, to require transmission and distribution utilities to cover the cost of a portion of a line extension either by providing a portion of the line extension free of charge, in the case of utility construction of the line extension, or providing a credit or reimbursement upon transfer of ownership of the line extension to the utility, in the case of a privately constructed line extension.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-68)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and replaces the bill. The amendment establishes requirements, through rulemaking by the Public Utilities Commission, for a one-time payment by a transmission and distribution utility to a person that constructs an underground line extension, subject to technical standards, upon the transfer of ownership of the line to the transmission and distribution utility. The payment must take into account the estimated reduction in maintenance costs for an underground line extension relative to an overhead line extension. This amendment was not adopted.

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LD 946 An Act To Protect the Privacy of Online Customer Information

PUBLIC 216

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELLOWS S BERRY S	OTP OTP-AM OTP-AM	H-387 BERRY S

This bill prohibits a provider of broadband Internet access service from using, disclosing, selling or permitting access to customer personal information unless the customer expressly consents to that use, disclosure, sale or access. The bill provides other exceptions under which a provider may use, disclose, sell or permit access to customer personal information. The bill prohibits a provider from refusing to serve a customer, charging a customer a penalty or offering a customer a discount if the customer does or does not consent to the use, disclosure, sale or access. The bill requires providers to take reasonable measures to protect customer personal information from unauthorized use, disclosure, sale or access. The provisions of the bill apply to providers operating within the State when providing broadband Internet access service to customers that are billed for service received in the State and are physically located in the State.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-134)

This amendment is one of two minority reports of the committee and replaces the bill with a resolve. The amendment directs the Attorney General, in consultation with industry and customer stakeholders, to study and make recommendations regarding the State's role in the regulation of the privacy of online customer information. It requires the Attorney General to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by January 31, 2020 and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This amendment was not adopted.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-133)

This amendment is one of two minority reports of the committee and replaces the bill. The amendment includes a transparency requirement under which a controller, defined as a person who controls personal data collected through the Internet about individual consumers who use or visit the controller's website or online service, is required to make certain disclosures to the consumers regarding the categories of data that are processed, the manner in which the data may be shared with third parties and any rights the consumer may have to review and request changes to inaccurate data collected by the controller. The amendment includes a right-to-know provision that requires controllers who sell personal data collected from individual consumers who use or visit the controller's website or online service to make available to the consumers, free of charge, all categories of data sold and all categories of third parties who received the data. Additionally, the amendment requires controllers who sell personal data to third parties to conspicuously post a designated address and provide consumers a right to opt out of the sale of the consumer's data by issuing a verified request through the designated address. Finally, the amendment requires consumer consent with regard to the sharing of certain sensitive information or information that is sensitive in nature, subject to a risk assessment by the controller. The amendment provides an effective date of July 1, 2021. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This amendment was not adopted.

House Amendment "B" (H-387)

This amendment includes other exceptions, as found in the current law, to the release of customer personal information, such as for the release of portable electronic device content information and location information to a government entity. This amendment also removes the authorization of a provider of broadband Internet access

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service to provide geolocation information regarding a customer to the customer's legal guardian or immediate family member in an emergency situation. This amendment also provides an effective date of July 1, 2020 for the legislation.

This amendment was not adopted.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 216 prohibits a provider of broadband Internet access service from using, disclosing, selling or permitting access to customer personal information unless the customer expressly consents to that use, disclosure, sale or access. It provides other exceptions under which a provider may use, disclose, sell or permit access to customer personal information, such as for the release of portable electronic device content information and location information to a government entity. The law prohibits a provider from refusing to serve a customer, charging a customer a penalty or offering a customer a discount if the customer does or does not consent to the use, disclosure, sale or access and requires providers to take reasonable measures to protect customer personal information from unauthorized use, disclosure, sale or access. The provisions of this law apply to providers operating within the State when providing broadband Internet access service to customers that are billed for service received in the State and are physically located in the State. This law has an effective date of of July 1, 2020.

LD 950 An Act To Develop a State Energy Plan To Provide a Pathway to an Energy Portfolio Free of Fossil Fuels ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DEVIN M	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to develop a State energy plan to provide a pathway to an energy portfolio free of fossil fuels.

LD 980 An Act To Amend Provisions of the Maine Energy Cost Reduction Act Regarding Assessments on Ratepayers ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RILEY T LAWRENCE M	ONTP	

This bill amends the Maine Energy Cost Reduction Act to permit the Public Utilities Commission to consider the effect on electricity market clearing prices in Maine of programs, contracts and other enforceable obligations in other states in determining whether assessments on Maine electricity ratepayers for natural gas pipelines and gas storage are just and reasonable.

LD 994 Resolve, To Require the Approval by the Public Utilities Commission of a Proposal for a Long-term Contract for Deep-water Offshore Wind Energy RESOLVE 87

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOODSOME D	OTP-AM OTP-AM	S-245

This resolve directs the Public Utilities Commission to approve the long-term contract for capacity and associated energy between Maine Aqua Ventus I, GP, LLC and Central Maine Power Company submitted to the commission in

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December 2017.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-245)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment adds additional specifications to the directive in the resolve to the Public Utilities Commission to approve a long-term contract for energy and capacity between Maine Aqua Ventus and Central Maine Power Company. The amendment additionally specifies and requires that:

1. Maine Aqua Ventus file a draft contract with the commission within 15 days of the effective date of the resolve;
2. The commission initiate and complete negotiations among commission staff, Maine Aqua Ventus, Central Maine Power Company and the Office of the Public Advocate and approve a contract between Maine Aqua Ventus and Central Maine Power Company within 60 days of the filing of the draft contract;
3. The final draft contract be the same as the contract filed with the commission on December 13, 2017, in Docket No. 2010-00235, except for revisions necessary for the purposes of updating the contract in light of the passage of time and the maturation of the industry and facilitating the financing, construction and operation of the demonstration project in current circumstances, within the cost limitations established in Public Law 2009, chapter 615, while not increasing or decreasing the annual energy production cap or, except as needed to reasonably accommodate for construction inflation costs since 2014, the cost per kilowatt-hour previously set in the base energy price; and
4. The commission order the final draft contract to be executed by Maine Aqua Ventus and Central Maine Power Company within 90 days of the effective date of the resolve.

The amendment also provides for the Public Utilities Commission to monitor the deep-water offshore wind energy pilot project developed by Maine Aqua Ventus and respond to requested future amendments to the contract in the context of accomplishing the objectives of Public Law 2009, chapter 615 and authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology to report out a bill related to deep-water offshore wind energy to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-246)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause. The amendment requires that the contract between Maine Aqua Ventus and Central Maine Power Company to be approved by the Public Utilities Commission under the resolve be revised to set the price in the contract equal to the ISO-New England wholesale energy market price.

This amendment was not adopted.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 87 directs the Public Utilities Commission to approve the long-term contract for capacity and associated energy between Maine Aqua Ventus I, GP, LLC and Central Maine Power Company submitted to the commission in December 2017. It requires that:

1. Maine Aqua Ventus file a draft contract with the commission within 15 days of the effective date of the resolve;
2. The commission initiate and complete negotiations among commission staff, Maine Aqua Ventus, Central Maine Power Company and the Office of the Public Advocate and approve a contract between Maine Aqua Ventus and Central Maine Power Company within 60 days of the filing of the draft contract;
3. The final draft contract be the same as the contract filed with the commission on December 13, 2017, in Docket

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No. 2010-00235, except for revisions necessary for the purposes of updating the contract in light of the passage of time and the maturation of the industry and facilitating the financing, construction and operation of the demonstration project in current circumstances, within the cost limitations established in Public Law 2009, chapter 615, while not increasing or decreasing the annual energy production cap or, except as needed to reasonably accommodate for construction inflation costs since 2014, the cost per kilowatt-hour previously set in the base energy price; and

4. The commission order the final draft contract to be executed by Maine Aqua Ventus and Central Maine Power Company within 90 days of the effective date of the resolve.

The resolve provides for the Public Utilities Commission to monitor the deep-water offshore wind energy pilot project developed by Maine Aqua Ventus and respond to requested future amendments to the contract in the context of accomplishing the objectives of Public Law 2009, chapter 615 and authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology to report out a bill related to deep-water offshore wind energy to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

LD 1003 An Act To Ensure Accurate Explanations of Electric Bills

PUBLIC 88

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S CHENETTE J	OTP-AM	H-101

This bill requires an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to obtain the approval of the Public Utilities Commission before providing information explaining electricity rate components to a customer. The bill requires the commission to ensure that the information provided to a customer accurately reflects the overall rate structure and cost components for the supply and delivery of electricity. The bill also requires the commission to receive input from the Public Advocate and other interested parties before approving or disapproving any written information provided by an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to a customer.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-101)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment requires the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules to do the following:

1. Require investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to provide customers annually, as an insert or attachment to customer bills, an informational chart showing a 10-year history of transmission, distribution and standard-offer service rates available to the customer's rate class, along with a statement of the total percentage change in those rates over the 10-year period;
2. Require a customer bill issued by an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to display clearly and prominently the toll-free telephone number for the commission's consumer assistance and safety division and a statement of the consumer assistance services available by calling the division; and
3. Establish a process for the commission, upon finding that an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility has distributed information to customers that is misleading, deceptive or inaccurate, to require the transmission and distribution utility to provide customers a statement that corrects the misleading, deceptive or inaccurate information.

The amendment also requires the commission to post informational charts showing a 10-year history of electricity rate components on the commission's website.

Enacted Law Summary

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Public Law 2019, chapter 88 requires the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules to do the following:

1. Require investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to provide customers annually, as an insert or attachment to customer bills, an informational chart showing a 10-year history of transmission, distribution and standard-offer service rates available to the customer's rate class, along with a statement of the total percentage change in those rates over the 10-year period;
2. Require a customer bill issued by an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to display clearly and prominently the toll-free telephone number for the commission's consumer assistance and safety division and a statement of the consumer assistance services available by calling the division; and
3. Establish a process for the commission, upon finding that an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility has distributed information to customers that is misleading, deceptive or inaccurate, to require the transmission and distribution utility to provide customers a statement that corrects the misleading, deceptive or inaccurate information.

The law also requires the commission to post informational charts showing a 10-year history of electricity rate components on the commission's website.

LD 1027 An Act To Eliminate the 100-megawatt Limit on Hydroelectric Generators under the Renewable Resources Laws Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HANLEY J DOW D	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill removes the 100-megawatt capacity limit for a hydroelectric generator that meets all state and federal fish passage requirements applicable to generators to qualify as a renewable capacity resource and for a hydroelectric generator to qualify as a renewable resource for the purpose of meeting the State's renewable resource portfolio requirement.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-208)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment, which replaces the bill, removes the 100-megawatt capacity limit for a resource to qualify as a renewable resource or a renewable capacity resource for the purpose of meeting the State's renewable resource portfolio requirement.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1048 An Act To Encourage Conservation in Determining Natural Gas Rates Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SANBORN H COLLINGS B	ONTP OTP	

This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission, in determining rates and rate structures for natural gas utilities, to consider energy conservation and financial incentives for customers to reduce natural gas consumption.

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**LD 1060 An Act To Authorize Consumers Located Adjacent to Electric Power
Generators To Obtain Power Directly**

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL D FOLEY R	ONTP OTP	

This bill allows an electricity generator to build an interconnection from the generator's facility to a consumer of the electricity located adjacent to the generator without becoming subject to regulation by the Public Utilities Commission as a transmission and distribution utility. The Public Utilities Commission is directed to adopt rules to determine when a consumer is located adjacent to a generator.

**LD 1063 An Act To Support the Role of Municipalities in Expanding Broadband
Infrastructure**

PUBLIC 108

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCREIGHT J FOLEY R	OTP-AM	H-110

This bill recognizes broadband Internet as a public necessity. It designates a community broadband system or part of that system as a revenue-producing municipal facility. It allows a municipality to construct, maintain and operate a municipal or multimunicipal system composed of infrastructure capable of being utilized by communications service providers for the provision of communications services. The bill prohibits a municipality from providing retail communications services through community broadband systems to nonmunicipal entities. The bill exempts community broadband systems from taxation.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-110)

This amendment removes the provision in the bill that prohibits a municipality from providing retail communication services through community broadband systems to nonmunicipal entities.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 108 recognizes broadband Internet as a public necessity. It designates a community broadband system or part of that system as a revenue-producing municipal facility. It allows a municipality to construct, maintain and operate a municipal or multimunicipal system composed of infrastructure capable of being utilized by communications service providers for the provision of communications services, and it exempts community broadband systems from taxation.

LD 1120 An Act To Protect Consumers from Price Gouging by Utility Companies

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHENETTE J SYLVESTER M	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill changes the positions of the members of the Public Utilities Commission, currently 6-year terms, and the Public Advocate, currently a four-year term, to positions serving at the pleasure of the Governor. It also changes the compensation of the members of the Public Utilities Commission to be set at the average annual wage in the State;

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current law sets compensation of the chair of the commission at the salary of the Chief Justice of the Superior Court and the other commissioners at the salary of an Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

The bill requires the commission, in the determination of utility rates, to limit rate increases to less than 10% in any 12-month period. The bill also prohibits costs associated with errors or mistakes that are the responsibility of a utility from being included or incorporated in operating expenses in the commission's determination of rates or rate-adjustment mechanisms.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-95)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1127 An Act To Expand Community-based Solar Energy in Maine

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SANBORN H		

This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to enter into long-term contracts with community-based solar photovoltaic energy generating facilities. The total amount of resources procured through these long-term contracts may not exceed 100 megawatts, and 20% of resources procured must come from generators with a capacity of less than two megawatts. The bill requires the commission to establish provisions to protect the interests of utility customers over the term of the contracts.

The bill sets forth eligibility requirements for community-based solar resources to enter into long-term contracts. To be eligible, a resource must have a capacity of no more than 10 megawatts, have an in-service date between June 30, 2020 and December 31, 2021 and meet local ownership requirements. In addition, to be eligible, the owners of the resource must:

1. Demonstrate to the Public Utilities Commission completion of an interconnection agreement application with the local transmission and distribution utility;
2. Include a plan to obtain all required federal, state and local permits and approvals;
3. Demonstrate financial capability to operate the resource over the term of the contract;
4. Include a letter or resolution of support from the local community in which the resource is located; and
5. Outline expected economic benefits from the long-term contract to the local community in which the resource is located.

The bill establishes a minimum contract length of 20 years and requires the contract rate to be less than 9¢ per kilowatt-hour and fixed for a period of at least 20 years. Contracts may be for energy or capacity. The contracts may also include renewable energy credits, or the owners of the resource may retain the renewable energy credits associated with the resource, as determined by the owners. Finally, the bill specifies that available energy contracted for under the provisions of this bill must be sold into the wholesale electricity market in conjunction with solicitations for standard-offer supply bids.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

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LD 1139 An Act To Eliminate Restrictions on Capacity and the Number of Accounts for Net Energy Billing ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HIGGINS N BELLOWS S	ONTP	

This bill provides that the Public Utilities Commission may not limit the installed capacity of an eligible facility or the number of accounts or meters a customer or shared ownership customer may designate for net energy billing. Current commission rules limit the capacity to 660 kilowatts and the number of meters or accounts to 10.

LD 1173 An Act To Allow the Direct Sale of Electricity PUBLIC 205

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOODSOME D	OTP-AM	S-123

This bill directs the Public Utilities Commission to approve a petition to sell electricity directly to commercial or industrial customers if the commission finds the electric service meets specified requirements. The bill specifies that the petitioner does not become a public utility as a result of its furnishing electric service to participating customers. The bill also provides that a person that has been approved to sell electricity directly to customers may construct and maintain its lines in, upon, along, over, across or under the roads and streets.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-123)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment allows an entity that generates electricity to construct a transmission line for the purpose of interconnecting and distributing electricity to serve a commercial or industrial consumer without becoming subject to regulation by the Public Utilities Commission as a transmission and distribution utility or a competitive electricity provider when the commercial or industrial consumer is located on the property where the generator is located; on abutting property; or on a commercial or industrial site served by the generator or its predecessor without using the transmission and distribution plant of a public utility prior to December 31, 2018. The amendment requires the Public Utilities Commission to report every three years, beginning in 2022, on the incidence of direct sales of electricity by an entity that generates electricity to commercial or industrial consumers in the instances allowed under this amendment. Finally, the amendment clarifies that this legislation does not modify or nullify the framework and precedent for analyzing when an entity is a transmission and distribution utility or a competitive electricity provider established by the Public Utilities Commission in related cases.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 205 allows an entity that generates electricity to construct a transmission line for the purpose of interconnecting and distributing electricity to serve a commercial or industrial consumer without becoming subject to regulation by the Public Utilities Commission as a transmission and distribution utility or a competitive electricity provider when the commercial or industrial consumer is located on the property where the generator is located; on abutting property; or on a commercial or industrial site served by the generator or its predecessor without using the transmission and distribution plant of a public utility prior to December 31, 2018. The law requires the Public Utilities Commission to report every three years, beginning in 2022, on the incidence of direct sales of electricity by an entity that generates electricity to commercial or industrial consumers in the instances allowed under this amendment. Finally, the law clarifies that it does not modify or nullify the framework and precedent for analyzing when an entity is a transmission and distribution utility or a competitive electricity provider established by the Public Utilities Commission in related cases.

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LD 1181 An Act To Reduce Electricity Costs through Nonwires Alternatives

PUBLIC 298

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S LAWRENCE M	OTP-AM	H-431

This bill establishes the position of nonwires alternative coordinator in the Office of the Public Advocate. The duties of the nonwires alternative coordinator include investigation and identification of nonwires alternatives to proposed transmission lines and proposed transmission projects and evaluation of the costs and benefits of nonwires alternatives compared to utility capital investments in the transmission and distribution system. The bill requires the nonwires alternative coordinator to include and collaborate with transmission and distribution utilities, the Efficiency Maine Trust and interested parties in conducting the coordinator's review and analysis of proposed utility capital investments and nonwires alternatives. The duties of the coordinator also include making recommendations for nonwires alternatives to the Public Utilities Commission, proposing procurement plans for nonwires alternatives and implementing procurement plans approved by the commission. The bill specifies that a procurement plan for nonwires alternatives may provide for the Efficiency Maine Trust to procure and deliver, through its existing programs, nonwires alternatives, and it authorizes the Efficiency Maine Trust, in its triennial plan or annual update plan, to include the costs of providing nonwires alternatives in its budget for electric efficiency and conservation programs.

The bill amends the law governing the construction of transmission lines and the construction of transmission or distribution projects by transmission and distribution utilities. It defines a transmission or distribution project as a transmission or distribution line operating at less than 69 kilovolts projected to cost over \$500,000; current law defines a transmission project as a transmission line operating at less than 69 kilovolts projected to cost over \$20,000,000. The bill requires the nonwires alternative coordinator to conduct an investigation of proposed transmission lines and proposed transmission or distribution projects prior to approval of any line or project by the Public Utilities Commission. It requires the commission to consider the results of the investigation conducted by and the recommendations of the nonwires alternative coordinator regarding nonwires alternatives to the proposed transmission line or transmission or distribution project.

The bill requires each transmission and distribution utility to file an annual schedule of transmission line rebuilding or relocation projects and minor transmission line construction projects with the nonwires alternative coordinator in addition to with the Public Utilities Commission. It also establishes a requirement for each transmission and distribution utility to prepare and file annually with the commission and the nonwires alternative coordinator a distribution system planning study describing system capacity and load and growth-related needs for the upcoming five years to ensure electric grid reliability.

The bill makes several changes to the law on smart grid infrastructure policy. It establishes that it is in the public interest to establish a nonwires alternative coordinator for the State. It allows utilities to adjust rates to recover incremental costs associated with operations of the nonwires alternative coordinator and costs of procuring nonwires alternatives and eliminates the requirement that incremental costs be prudently incurred to be recoverable. It requires the Public Advocate's annual report to include a report on the State's progress on smart grid infrastructure.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-431)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill and does the following.

1. It requires the Public Advocate to contract with a person or entity to serve as the nonwires alternative coordinator.

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2. It provides that funding of the contracted services of the nonwires alternative coordinator is provided through a special assessment on investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities.
3. It adjusts the salary range of the Special Assistant to the Public Advocate from range 20 to range 25.
4. It amends the definition of "transmission project" to cover projects expected to cost in excess of \$5,000,000, rather than those in excess of \$20,000,000 as in current law.
5. It amends the provisions relating to transmission lines and transmission projects subject to investigation of nonwires alternatives in several ways. It limits the requirement for a nonwires alternative investigation to apply to transmission lines and projects proposed by investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities, rather than transmission and distribution utilities in general. It also adds a category of small transmission and distribution projects subject to nonwires alternatives investigation.
6. It establishes cost-effectiveness as the analytical framework and standard for the investigation of nonwires alternatives for all types of projects and requires a benefit-cost analysis to evaluate cost-effectiveness. It requires the nonwires alternative coordinator to develop and make recommendations regarding the cost-effectiveness of nonwires alternatives and a proposed plan for procurement of nonwires alternatives.
7. It requires an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to submit annually to the Office of the Public Advocate a planning study for small transmission and distribution projects.
8. It requires the nonwires alternative coordinator to provide recommendations to investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities for nonwires alternatives to small transmission projects and distribution projects and requires the coordinator and the utility to attempt to reach a good faith agreement on the adoption of nonwires alternatives. If no agreement is reached, the utility is required to petition the Public Utilities Commission to resolve the dispute.
9. It includes provisions regarding procurement of nonwires alternatives. These provisions require a transmission and distribution utility to contract with the Efficiency Maine Trust to deliver nonwires alternatives that are on the customer side of the meter and require the commission to determine the entity, which may be the utility or a third party, to deliver nonwires alternatives that are on the grid side of the meter.
10. It provides that a transmission and distribution utility's prudently incurred costs to deliver nonwires alternatives are recoverable in rates.
11. It adds a provision to reference the activities of the nonwires alternative coordinator in the Efficiency Maine Trust Act regarding coordination with activities and programs of state agencies and authorities.
12. It makes changes to the law on smart grid infrastructure policy and establishes that it is in the public interest to establish a nonwires alternative coordinator for the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 298 does the following.

1. It requires the Public Advocate to contract with a person or entity to serve as the nonwires alternative coordinator.
2. It provides that funding of the contracted services of the nonwires alternative coordinator is provided through a special assessment on investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities.
3. It adjusts the salary range of the Special Assistant to the Public Advocate from range 20 to range 25.

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- 4. It amends the definition of "transmission project" to cover projects expected to cost in excess of \$5,000,000, rather than those in excess of \$20,000,000 as in current law.
- 5. It amends the provisions relating to transmission lines and transmission projects subject to investigation of nonwires alternatives in several ways. It limits the requirement for a nonwires alternative investigation to apply to transmission lines and projects proposed by investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities, rather than transmission and distribution utilities in general. It also adds a category of small transmission and distribution projects subject to nonwires alternatives investigation.
- 6. It establishes cost-effectiveness as the analytical framework and standard for the investigation of nonwires alternatives for all types of projects and requires a benefit-cost analysis to evaluate cost-effectiveness. It requires the nonwires alternative coordinator to develop and make recommendations regarding the cost-effectiveness of nonwires alternatives and a proposed plan for procurement of nonwires alternatives.
- 7. It requires an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to submit annually to the Office of the Public Advocate a planning study for small transmission and distribution projects.
- 8. It requires the nonwires alternative coordinator to provide recommendations to investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities for nonwires alternatives to small transmission projects and distribution projects and requires the coordinator and the utility to attempt to reach a good faith agreement on the adoption of nonwires alternatives. If no agreement is reached, the utility is required to petition the Public Utilities Commission to resolve the dispute.
- 9. It includes provisions regarding procurement of nonwires alternatives. These provisions require a transmission and distribution utility to contract with the Efficiency Maine Trust to deliver nonwires alternatives that are on the customer side of the meter and require the commission to determine the entity, which may be the utility or a third party, to deliver nonwires alternatives that are on the grid side of the meter.
- 10. It provides that a transmission and distribution utility's prudently incurred costs to deliver nonwires alternatives are recoverable in rates.
- 11. It adds a provision to reference the activities of the nonwires alternative coordinator in the Efficiency Maine Trust Act regarding coordination with activities and programs of state agencies and authorities.
- 12. It makes changes to the law on smart grid infrastructure policy and establishes that it is in the public interest to establish a nonwires alternative coordinator for the State.

LD 1186 An Act To Address Electricity Costs of Agricultural Fairs

**PUBLIC 169
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HIGGINS N GRATWICK G	OTP-AM	H-228

This bill provides that a transmission and distribution utility may not assess a person or entity licensed to hold an agricultural fair a demand charge in connection with electric power or service provided for an agricultural fair.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-228)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment establishes a program administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust to help agricultural fairs reduce electricity costs through efficiency and conservation. The program includes outreach and technical assistance to agricultural fairs to identify opportunities to lower electricity costs and enroll agricultural fairs in existing programs offered by the trust as appropriate. The program also provides custom financial incentives to agricultural fairs to implement electric efficiency and conservation measures, including but

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not limited to measures to reduce peak electricity demand. Funds for the program are set at the total amount paid in demand charges by agricultural fairs in the State during the prior year and are collected from electricity customers by transmission and distribution utilities. The trust is required to report to the Legislature on the program in January 2022 and January 2024, and the program has a sunset date of June 30, 2024.

The amendment also directs the Public Utilities Commission to examine rate design and related issues for electricity customers that, like agricultural fairs, have seasonal, limited-duration, concentrated load profiles. It requires the commission to submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature based on the report.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 169 establishes a program administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust to help agricultural fairs reduce electricity costs through efficiency and conservation. The program includes outreach and technical assistance to agricultural fairs to identify opportunities to lower electricity costs and enroll agricultural fairs in existing programs offered by the trust as appropriate. The program also provides custom financial incentives to agricultural fairs to implement electric efficiency and conservation measures, including but not limited to measures to reduce peak electricity demand. Funds for the program are set at the total amount paid in demand charges by agricultural fairs in the State during the prior year and are collected from electricity customers by transmission and distribution utilities. The trust is required to report to the Legislature on the program in January 2022 and January 2024, and the program has a sunset date of June 30, 2024.

This law also directs the Public Utilities Commission to examine rate design and related issues for electricity customers that, like agricultural fairs, have seasonal, limited-duration, concentrated load profiles. It requires the commission to submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature based on the report.

Public Law 2019, chapter 169 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 30, 2019.

LD 1192 An Act To Establish Municipal Access to Utility Poles Located in Municipal Rights-of-way

PUBLIC 127

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VITELLI E HEPLER A	OTP-AM ONTP	S-69

This bill amends the utilities laws to provide access by municipalities to facilities located in the municipal right-of-way in the interest of public health, safety and welfare. The bill also establishes the preservation of space for municipal attachments to shared-use poles by exempting municipalities from expenses assessed by joint use entities when the attachment is made for any purpose.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-69)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment changes the provision in the bill that exempts a municipality from expenses assessed for make-ready work to accommodate the municipality's attaching its facilities to a shared-used utility pole for any purpose. The amendment instead exempts a municipality from expenses assessed for make-ready work to accommodate the municipality's attaching its facilities for a governmental purpose consistent with the police power of the municipality or for the purpose of providing broadband service to an unserved or underserved area.

Enacted Law Summary

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Public Law 2019, chapter 127 provides access by municipalities to facilities located in the municipal right-of-way in the interest of public health, safety and welfare. The law exempts a municipality from expenses assessed for make-ready work to accommodate the municipality's attaching its facilities to shared-used utility poles for a governmental purpose consistent with the police power of the municipality or for the purpose of providing broadband service to an unserved or underserved area.

LD 1198 An Act To Ensure Transparency and Participation in Maine Water Districts

Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIPMAN B MARTIN D	ONTP OTP	

This bill removes from the laws governing water districts and standard water districts language referencing the appointment of standard district trustees pursuant to standard district charters. It amends the law regarding appointments of trustees to provide that, if sufficient and appropriate nominations for the election of trustees have not occurred, trustees may be appointed.

LD 1206 An Act Regarding Utility Poles in Public Rights-of-way

PUBLIC 128

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BEEBE-CENTER P	OTP-AM	H-169

This bill provides specific authority to a municipality or other applicable licensing authority to manage public rights-of-way, to issue licenses or permits for the use of those rights-of-way by utilities such as wireless telecommunications service providers and cable television systems and to charge a fee for the license or permit. A municipality or applicable licensing authority may order a utility to alter, remove or relocate its facilities. A utility that fails to comply with a written order of a municipality to alter, remove or relocate the utility's facilities is subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 per day for each day the utility remains in violation of the order of the municipality.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-169)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment adds language to the law governing the safety and convenience of highways, town ways and streets to specify that utility poles and facilities are not defects in the public way, in order to relieve municipal officials from liability for utility poles and facilities in the public way. The amendment also directs the Public Utilities Commission to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology in January 2020 regarding actions the commission has taken to address issues related to abandoned utility poles and any associated facilities in the public right-of-way.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 128 adds language to the law governing the safety and convenience of highways, town ways and streets to specify that utility poles and facilities are not defects in the public way, in order to relieve municipal officials from liability for utility poles and facilities in the public way. It also directs the Public Utilities Commission to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology in January 2020 regarding actions the commission has taken to address issues related to abandoned utility poles and any associated facilities in the public right-of-way.

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LD 1231 An Act To Fund Energy Efficiency Programs through a Fee on the Sale of Unregulated Heating Fuels

Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KESSLER C CHIPMAN B	ONTP OTP-AM	

Starting July 1, 2020, this bill imposes a fee of 1% on the wholesale sale price of heating oil, propane, coal, kerosene and dyed diesel fuel that is intended for residential or commercial heating purposes. The bill requires the revenue raised through the imposition of this fee to be used to provide additional funding for the Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund, which is administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust for the purpose of reducing heating fuel consumption and providing energy efficiency and weatherization products and services to consumers.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-607)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It adds language to clarify that the fee imposed by the bill is an exception to the tax exemption for heating fuels provided under the State sales and use tax law.
2. It removes dyed diesel fuel from the list of fuels subject to the fee.
3. It removes language that would have required a wholesaler to know the fuel at wholesale sale is intended for residential or commercial heating purposes.
4. It requires 20% of the revenue from the fee to go to the Maine State Housing Authority to assist eligible low-income households with heating costs under the fuel assistance program administered by the authority and 80% to go to the Efficiency Maine Trust for the Heating Fuel Efficiency and Weatherization Fund. In the bill 100% of the revenue is dedicated to the Efficiency Maine Trust.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1248 Resolve, To Direct the ConnectME Authority To Report on the Progress of the Detailed 2019-2021 Strategic Plan for Broadband Service in Maine

RESOLVE 33

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MORALES V	OTP-AM	H-168

This resolve directs the ConnectME Authority to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters by January 19th in 2020, 2021 and 2022 outlining the progress of the authority in meeting the goals of its Detailed 2019-2021 Strategic Plan for Broadband Service in Maine.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-168)

This amendment incorporates and aligns the reporting requirement in the resolve with the ConnectME Authority annual report, instead of requiring a separate report to the Legislature on the progress on the strategic plan.

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Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 33 directs the ConnectME Authority, in 2020, 2021 and 2022, to include in its annual report due January 15th to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters information outlining the progress of the authority in meeting the goals of its Detailed 2019-2021 Strategic Plan for Broadband Service in Maine.

LD 1279 An Act To Modernize Maine's Renewable Portfolio Standard

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE M	ONTP	

This bill changes the requirements for a hydroelectric generator that meets all state and federal fish passage requirements to qualify as a renewable capacity resource for the purpose of meeting the State's new renewable capacity resource portfolio requirements as follows: it removes the 100-megawatt maximum capacity limit; it adds a 25-megawatt minimum capacity requirement; and it requires the hydroelectric generator to be located in the service territory of a transmission and distribution utility in this State. The bill also limits competitive electricity providers in the use of output from qualifying hydroelectric generators to meet the new renewable capacity resource portfolio requirements over a 15-year period, beginning with a limit of 25% of output from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 and increasing by 5% each year to reach 100% as of January 1, 2035. The legislation has an effective date of January 1, 2020.

LD 1282 An Act To Establish a Green New Deal for Maine

PUBLIC 347

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAXMIN C BELLOWS S	OTP-AM ONTP	H-413 H-460 MAXMIN C

This bill does the following.

Part A requires competitive electricity providers to demonstrate, by 2040, that their portfolios of supply sources for retail electricity sales in this State are 80% accounted for by renewable resources. It also amends the State's goals for long-term reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Part B creates the Task Force for a Green New Deal, which consists of 11 members including representatives of State Government, climate science, renewable energy, youth, labor and business. The task force is charged with creating a plan to advance environmental sustainability, renewable energy and economic growth for the State. The plan must include, but is not limited to, a renewable resources strategy to achieve 80% reliance on renewable resources for electricity supply by 2040; a job training strategy, including a training program to prepare workers for green jobs; and a residential energy strategy that provides incentives for installation of solar energy systems and heat pumps. The task force is required to submit a report on its plan by January 15, 2020 to the Governor, the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology and the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Part C requires the Public Utilities Commission and the Efficiency Maine Trust to submit a report by January 1, 2020 that includes draft legislation to establish a virtual net metering program to encourage installation of solar photovoltaic energy systems on public school buildings.

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Part D creates the Commission on a Just Transition to a Low-carbon Economy. The commission includes 13 members. The purpose of the commission is to ensure that the State's transition to a low-carbon economy benefits all residents fairly and equitably. The commission is required to submit an annual report to the Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-413)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee and replaces the bill. This amendment:

1. Requires construction employers constructing grid scale generation facilities to hire certain percentages of apprentices to work on the construction beginning in 2021;
2. Requires that the Efficiency Maine Trust, in collaboration with the Department of Education, identify and provide incentives for cost-effective electric and natural gas conservation projects in new school construction projects; and
3. Requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to establish, through a competitive solicitation process, a power purchase agreement for solar capacity to be installed on school property when a new school is being constructed.

House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-460)

This amendment includes as a qualifying apprentice an apprentice who is in an apprenticeship program registered with the United States Department of Labor.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 347 requires:

1. Construction employers constructing grid scale generation facilities to hire certain percentages of apprentices to work on the construction beginning in 2021;
2. That the Efficiency Maine Trust, in collaboration with the Department of Education, identify and provide incentives for cost-effective electric and natural gas conservation projects in new school construction projects; and
3. That the Efficiency Maine Trust establish, through a competitive solicitation process, a power purchase agreement for solar capacity to be installed on school property when a new school is being constructed.

LD 1299 An Act To Incentivize Municipalities, State Agencies, Colleges and Universities To Use Electric Vehicles ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
INGWERSEN H CHENETTE J	ONTP	

This bill requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to develop a program to provide grants to municipalities, state agencies, colleges and universities to support the purchase of charging stations for electric vehicles and the purchase of electric vehicles.

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LD 1363 An Act To Amend Certain Laws Relating to High-impact Electric Transmission Lines

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S FARRIN B	OTP-AM ONTP OTP-AM	H-437 H-504 BERRY S

This bill prohibits the Public Utilities Commission from issuing a certificate of public convenience and necessity for a high-impact electric transmission line unless the commission finds significant tangible public benefits will result from the construction and use of the line, and all municipalities through which the high-impact electric transmission line will pass have held a local referendum and certified to the commission that a majority of the voters voting at the election voted in favor of the construction of the line through that municipality.

This bill also establishes a moratorium on the issuance of any permit, certificate or other approval by the Public Utilities Commission or the Department of Environmental Protection for a high-impact electric transmission line until 90 days after the adjournment of the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature to allow time for the commission, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, to adopt rules necessary to implement the requirements of the legislation.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-437)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment changes the bill as follows.

1. It modifies the definition of "high-impact electric transmission line" to include a transmission line that is: greater than 50 miles in length; capable of operating at 200 kilovolts or more; not a generator interconnection transmission facility; and not constructed primarily to provide electric reliability within the State.
2. It replaces the requirement that a high-impact electric transmission line provide significant tangible benefits with requirements that: the petitioner for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the line pay an amount of tax benefits projected by the petitioner; and the petitioner for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the line provide a community benefits package with a total value of no less than \$20,000 per year per megawatt of capacity of the line.
3. It requires that at least 2/3 of the local governments through which the high-impact electric transmission line will pass approve the line and clarifies that if a referendum vote is held, that vote supersedes any vote by local government officers.
4. It makes other clarifying changes.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-438)

This amendment is one of two minority reports of the committee. The amendment:

1. Removes the emergency preamble and clause from the bill;
2. Modifies the definition of "high-impact electric transmission line" to include a transmission line that is: greater than 50 miles in length; capable of operating at 200 kilovolts or more; not a generator interconnection transmission facility; and not constructed to provide electric reliability within the State; and
3. Requires that a petitioner for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for a high-impact electric transmission line pay the amount of tax benefits projected by the petitioner.

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This amendment was not adopted.

House Amendment "A" (H-504)

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause.

LD 1364 An Act Regarding Net Neutrality and Internet Policy

PUBLIC 468

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GROHOSKI N BELLOWS S	OTP-AM ONTP	H-301 S-257 LAWRENCE M

This bill prohibits a state agency or instrumentality from committing state funds in a manner that the agency or instrumentality knows would result in a direct payment to an Internet service provider unless the Internet service provider agrees in writing to conform to the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission order, FCC 15-24, adopted on February 26, 2015, known as the Open Internet Order.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-301)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment replaces the bill. The amendment narrows the scope and application of the prohibition in the bill regarding committing state funds for payment to an Internet service provider. The amendment prohibits an agency, department or instrumentality of the State from committing state funds to an Internet service provider unless the Internet service provider agrees to provide net neutral service in the provision of Internet service directly to the state entity or the provision of service across advanced communications infrastructure constructed with the use of state funds. The amendment defines "net neutral service" as Internet service provided without engaging in any of the following: blocking of lawful content, applications, services or devices; throttling; or paid prioritization. The amendment removes the requirement in the bill that prohibits the commitment of state funds to an Internet service provider unless that provider agrees, in providing any service, to conform to the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission order, FCC 15-24, known as the Open Internet Order.

Senate Amendment "C" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-257)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment replaces the bill. The amendment narrows the scope and application of the prohibition in the bill regarding committing state funds for payment to an Internet service provider. The amendment prohibits an agency, department or instrumentality of the State from committing state funds to an Internet service provider unless the Internet service provider agrees to provide net neutral service in the provision of Internet service directly to the state entity or the provision of service across advanced communications infrastructure constructed with the use of state funds. The amendment defines "net neutral service" as Internet service provided without engaging in any of the following: blocking of lawful content, applications, services or devices; throttling; or paid prioritization. The amendment removes the requirement in the bill that prohibits the commitment of state funds to an Internet service provider unless that provider agrees, in providing any service, to conform to the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission order, FCC 15-24, known as the Open Internet Order.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 468 prohibits an agency, department or instrumentality of the State from committing state funds to an Internet service provider unless the Internet service provider agrees to provide net neutral service in the provision of Internet service directly to the state entity or the provision of service across advanced communications infrastructure constructed with the use of state funds. The law defines "net neutral service" as Internet service provided without engaging in any of the following: blocking of lawful content,

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applications, services or devices; throttling; or paid prioritization. Restrictions on blocking lawful content, applications, services or devices and throttling traffic are subject to reasonable network management practices.

LD 1371 An Act To Ensure Nondiscriminatory Treatment of Public, Educational and Governmental Access Channels by Cable System Operators PUBLIC 245

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOODSOME D O'CONNOR B	OTP ONTP	

This bill extends cable television service to rural areas by requiring all cable television franchises to provide line extensions with a minimum homes-per-mile requirement not to exceed 15 homes per mile.

The bill prohibits automatic franchise renewals beyond the initial term of the franchise renewal period, except for automatic franchise renewals in effect on the effective date of this legislation, which require advance notification of expiration from the cable system operator to the municipality. A cable system operator may not refuse to provide the municipality with required information to complete the renewal process.

The bill prohibits a cable system operator from modifying or amending the State's model franchise agreement without the consent of the municipality as arrived at during negotiations.

The bill includes provisions for the use and support of public, educational and governmental access channels and requires that these channels be placed in the same numerical sequence location as the local commercial network broadcast channels. The bill also requires all cable system operators in the State to carry public, educational and governmental access channels on the basic cable or video service offerings or tiers and specifies that the channels may not be separated or moved numerically from other channels carried on the basic cable or video service offerings or tiers without the agreement of the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels, unless the change is required by federal law. In the event of transfer of the franchise license, the same channel numbers used by the incumbent cable system operator must be retained. The bill provides that any public, educational or governmental access channel that has been moved within the 24 months preceding the effective date of this legislation and without the consent of the originator must be restored within 60 days to its original location and number.

The bill requires all cable system operators in the State to work with the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels to ensure that the signal sent from the point of origination to the cable system operator and delivered to the cable subscriber is of the same quality and format as originally created. A cable system operator is required to set up a toll-free telephone number for requests to resolve a signal quality problem.

The bill requires all cable system operators in the State to provide the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels access to the entity that controls the electronic program guides in the same manner as the local broadcast channels if requested by the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels. In addition, if channels are selected through a menu system, public, educational and governmental access channel designations must be displayed in a similar manner as local broadcast channel designations on the electronic program guide are displayed.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 245 does the following.

1. It extends cable television service to rural areas by requiring all cable television franchises to provide line

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extensions with a minimum homes-per-mile requirement not to exceed 15 homes per mile.

2. It prohibits automatic franchise renewals beyond the initial term of the franchise renewal period, except for automatic franchise renewals in effect on the effective date of this legislation, which require advance notification of expiration from the cable system operator to the municipality. A cable system operator may not refuse to provide the municipality with required information to complete the renewal process.

3. It prohibits a cable system operator from modifying or amending the State's model franchise agreement without the consent of the municipality as arrived at during negotiations.

4. It includes provisions for the use and support of public, educational and governmental access channels and requires that these channels be placed in the same numerical sequence location as the local commercial network broadcast channels. It also also requires all cable system operators in the State to carry public, educational and governmental access channels on the basic cable or video service offerings or tiers and specifies that the channels may not be separated or moved numerically from other channels carried on the basic cable or video service offerings or tiers without the agreement of the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels, unless the change is required by federal law. In the event of transfer of the franchise license, the same channel numbers used by the incumbent cable system operator must be retained. It provides that any public, educational or governmental access channel that has been moved within the 24 months preceding the effective date of this legislation and without the consent of the originator must be restored within 60 days to its original location and number.

5. It requires all cable system operators in the State to work with the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels to ensure that the signal sent from the point of origination to the cable system operator and delivered to the cable subscriber is of the same quality and format as originally created. A cable system operator is required to set up a toll-free telephone number for requests to resolve a signal quality problem.

6. It requires all cable system operators in the State to provide the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels access to the entity that controls the electronic program guides in the same manner as the local broadcast channels if requested by the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels. In addition, if channels are selected through a menu system, public, educational and governmental access channel designations must be displayed in a similar manner as local broadcast channel designations on the electronic program guide are displayed.

**LD 1383 An Act To Amend Maine's Municipal Land Use and Eminent Domain
Laws Regarding High-impact Electric Transmission Lines**

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GRIGNON C	OTP-AM ONTP OTP-AM	H-435

This bill requires a transmission and distribution utility, prior to taking land or an easement by eminent domain, to obtain the approval of the body of government having jurisdiction over the land or easement. Following approval by the body of government, the transmission and distribution utility is still required to obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Public Utilities Commission. The bill makes explicit that the exemption from municipal zoning ordinances regarding real estate used by public utilities does not apply to an elective transmission upgrade, which is a transmission line for which a person developing the transmission line has agreed to pay all of the costs of developing the transmission line without passing those costs on to ratepayers.

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Committee Amendment "A" (H-435)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment replaces the bill. It amends the laws governing municipal zoning ordinance exemptions and the right of eminent domain in relation to use of land for a high-impact electric transmission line, which is redefined as a line greater than 50 miles in length and capable of operating at 200 kilovolts or more that is not a generator interconnection facility and is not constructed primarily for electric reliability within the State. The amendment provides that the exemption in current law from a municipal zoning ordinance when the Public Utilities Commission has determined it is reasonably necessary for public convenience and necessity for real estate to be used for a high-impact electric transmission line is authorized only if the municipal officers by affirmative vote approve the commission's exemption. The amendment also requires a transmission and distribution utility, after obtaining approval from the Public Utilities Commission to take a location by eminent domain for a high-impact electric transmission line, to obtain the approval of the municipal officers, or county commissioners in the case of unorganized or deorganized territory, before exercising the right of eminent domain.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-436)

This amendment is one of two minority reports of the committee. The amendment, which replaces the bill, does the following.

1. It modifies the definition of "high-impact electric transmission line" to include only a transmission line that is: greater than 50 miles in length and for which a petition for a certificate of public convenience and necessity under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3132 is filed after June 1, 2019; not a generator interconnection transmission facility; capable of operating at 200 kilovolts or more; and not constructed to provide electric reliability within the State.
2. It provides that, before issuing a certificate of public convenience and necessity for a high-impact electric transmission line, the Public Utilities Commission must hold hearings in each county through which the line will pass.
3. It requires a transmission and distribution utility, after obtaining approval from the Public Utilities Commission to take a location by eminent domain for a high-impact electric transmission line, to obtain the approval of the municipal officers, or county commissioners in the case of unorganized or deorganized territory, before exercising the right of eminent domain.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1398 An Act To Allow the Efficiency Maine Trust To Provide Support for New Home Construction ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
INGWERSEN H	ONTP	

This bill provides that the Efficiency Maine Trust must ensure that conservation programs for residential consumers provide support for energy efficiency or conservation measures in new homes not just in retrofits or improvements of existing homes.

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LD 1401 Resolve, To Study Transmission Solutions To Enable Renewable Energy Investment in the State

RESOLVE 57

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S	OTP-AM ONTP	H-369

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to establish a study of transmission solutions to help enable more renewable energy investment in the State. The study would examine areas of clean energy potential; review possible funding mechanisms for advancing renewable energy initiatives, including bonding and public-private partnerships; and recommend measures to increase the pace of renewable energy investment in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-369)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, with a resolve. The amendment directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene a stakeholder group to examine and make recommendations regarding transmission system needs and solutions to support renewable energy investment in the State. The amendment requires the Governor's Energy Office to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by December 15, 2019 on the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group. The amendment authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 57 directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene a stakeholder group to examine and make recommendations regarding transmission system needs and solutions to support renewable energy investment in the State. It requires the Governor's Energy Office to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by December 15, 2019 on the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report.

LD 1436 Resolve, Directing Coordinated State Agencies To Engage with the Governing Leaderships of Portland Pipe Line Corporation and Montreal Pipe Line Limited for Sustainability-centered Repurposing of Stranded and At-risk Infrastructure Assets in Maine

RESOLVE 77

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KESSLER C MILLETT R	OTP-AM ONTP OTP	H-414

This resolve directs the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Governor's Energy Office, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Bureau of Land Resources within the Department of Environmental Protection, the Maine Land Use Planning Commission and the Public Utilities Commission in coordination to negotiate directly with the executive and board leaderships of the Portland Pipe Line Corporation and Montreal Pipe Line Limited parent companies Suncor Energy, Shell Oil Company and Imperial Oil Limited a proposal for repurposing the Portland-Montreal pipeline and related real estate holdings in the State. It directs the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business to appoint a project liaison or project liaisons to coordinate the proposal over a 6-month period, which may be extended as needed. It also prohibits any state agency from issuing any further permits related to the New England Clean Energy Connect transmission project before the proposal is complete, as determined by the Department of Economic and

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Community Development

Committee Amendment "A" (H-414)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It amends the resolve as follows.

1. It directs the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Governor's Energy Office to lead an effort to engage, rather than negotiate, with the executive and board leaderships of the Portland Pipe Line Corporation and Montreal Pipe Line Limited parent companies Suncor Energy, Shell Oil Company and Imperial Oil Limited to examine opportunities for repurposing the Portland-Montreal pipeline and related real estate holdings in the State.
2. It removes references in the resolve to creating an alternative to the New England Clean Energy Connect transmission project.
3. It removes the provision that required the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business to appoint a project liaison or project liaisons to coordinate the proposal over a six-month period.
4. It removes the moratorium on state agency approval of permits related to the New England Clean Energy Connect transmission project.
5. It adds a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by February 15, 2020.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 77 directs the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Governor's Energy Office to lead an effort to engage with the executive and board leaderships of the Portland Pipe Line Corporation and Montreal Pipe Line Limited parent companies Suncor Energy, Shell Oil Company and Imperial Oil Limited to examine opportunities for repurposing the Portland-Montreal pipeline and related real estate holdings in the State. It requires a report on these efforts be made to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by February 15, 2020.

LD 1464 An Act To Support Electrification of Certain Technologies for the Benefit of Maine Consumers and Utility Systems and the Environment

PUBLIC 365

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RILEY T WOODSOME D	OTP-AM ONTP	H-477

This bill amends provisions in the law regarding the conservation programs of the Efficiency Maine Trust by clarifying that conservation programs seek to increase the efficiency with which electricity is used and defining "beneficial electrification" as the electrification of a technology that would otherwise require energy from a fossil fuel that provides a benefit to a utility, a ratepayer or the environment by improving the efficiency of the electricity grid or reducing consumer costs or emissions, including carbon emissions. The bill also requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to conduct a study regarding the barriers to beneficial electrification of the transportation and heating sectors in the State. Finally, the bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to issue a request for proposals from utilities and entities that are not utilities to conduct a pilot program to support beneficial electrification of the transportation sector of the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-477)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

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1. It clarifies the definition of "beneficial electrification."
2. It clarifies that the Efficiency Maine Trust must conduct the study of barriers to beneficial electrification in consultation with stakeholders, rather than in coordination with the Public Utilities Commission, and specifies that the commission is required to facilitate the trust's access to information the trust requests from electric and gas utilities.
3. It changes certain dates in the bill regarding the timeline for the study of beneficial electrification by the Efficiency Maine Trust and for pilot program proposals to implement beneficial electrification in the transportation sector administered by the Public Utilities Commission.
4. It adds language to clarify the review and selection of proposals for a pilot program for beneficial electrification in the transportation sector.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 365 amends provisions in the law regarding the conservation programs of the Efficiency Maine Trust by clarifying that conservation programs seek to increase the efficiency with which electricity is used and defining "beneficial electrification" as the electrification of a technology that results in reduction of the use of a fossil fuel and that provides a benefit to a utility, a ratepayer or the environment by improving the efficiency of the electricity grid or reducing consumer costs or emissions, including carbon emissions.

The law requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to conduct a study in consultation with stakeholders regarding the barriers to beneficial electrification of the transportation and heating sectors in the State and requires the Public Utilities Commission to issue a request for proposals from utilities and entities that are not utilities and review and select proposals to conduct a pilot program to support beneficial electrification of the transportation sector of the State.

LD 1465 An Act To Diversify Maine's Energy Portfolio with Renewable Energy

Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule

Sponsor(s)
HUBBELL B

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill does the following.

1. It increases the portfolio requirement for new renewable resources from 10% to 50% by 2030 and makes several changes to resource eligibility for the requirement to encourage solar generation and highly productive hydropower resources and to provide minimum efficiency standards for biomass resources.
2. It directs the Public Utilities Commission to procure long-term contracts over a five-year period for 800 megawatts of grid-scale renewable resources, 90 megawatts of community-based renewable resources and 135 megawatts of renewable resources owned by commercial and industrial electricity customers. For each of these three types of renewable resources, the bill requires the commission to conduct annual solicitations for the long-term contracts and specifies requirements for the procurement process, resulting contracts and resource qualification.
3. It requires that the Public Utilities Commission rules governing net energy billing allow up to 200 customers to share ownership of an electricity generating facility for net energy billing, allow electricity generating facilities of up to one megawatt installed capacity to qualify for net energy billing and require the commission to review net

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energy billing when the cumulative capacity of electricity generating facilities that participate in net energy billing in the service territory of a transmission and distribution utility reaches 10% of the utility's peak demand.

4. It directs the Public Utilities Commission to develop a plan for implementing a thermal renewable resource portfolio standard to encourage commercial and industrial pellet and wood heating systems, residential biomass systems and combined heat and power systems fueled by biomass. It requires the commission to submit a plan for the thermal renewable resource portfolio standard by January 1, 2020.

5. It directs the Public Utilities Commission to develop, implement and evaluate a distributed generation pilot program to encourage on-site renewable energy generation. It requires the commission to evaluate the pilot program after three years of operation and report its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters by April 15, 2023.

LD 1469 An Act To Amend the Charter of the Rumford-Mexico Sewerage District P & S 8

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KEIM L	OTP-AM	S-124

This bill updates and clarifies provisions of the charter of the Rumford-Mexico Sewerage District regarding the determination of actual apportionable costs, the apportionment of annual costs and rate charges.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-124)

This amendment strikes the bill but retains the provision from the bill that increases the amount of funds that the district may transfer to a surplus or capital account if a surplus exists at the end of a calendar year.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2019, chapter 8 amends the charter of the Rumford-Mexico Sewerage District to increase the amount of funds that the district may transfer to a surplus or capital account if a surplus exists at the end of a calendar year.

LD 1494 An Act To Reform Maine's Renewable Portfolio Standard PUBLIC 477

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VITELLI E PLUECKER B	OTP-AM ONTP	S-307

This bill increases the percentage of supply sources for retail electricity sales in the State that must be accounted for by new renewable capacity resources from 10% to 50% by 2030. It also makes several changes to resource eligibility to meet these requirements. The bill also creates a renewable portfolio standard for thermal energy resources. The bill also directs the Public Utilities Commission to procure long-term contracts for an amount of renewable capacity resources that is equal to 1/2 the amount of the portfolio requirements for these resources and requires the commission to conduct annual competitive solicitations for the long-term contracts.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-307)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It adds state goals for consumption of electricity from renewable resources.

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2. It updates renewable portfolio requirement terminology to use the terms "Class I" and "Class II," which are the terms used in practice and in agency rules.
3. It clarifies certain definitions in the bill.
4. It creates a Class IA renewable resource portfolio requirement and removes the increased requirements for Class I resources that are in the bill; the new Class IA requirement combined with the existing Class I requirement preserves the overall increase in requirements to 50% by 2030 that is in the bill.
5. It applies a 300% multiplier for the output of a generator fueled by municipal solid waste in conjunction with recycling in Class II.
6. It delays by one year the portfolio requirements for thermal renewable energy credits in the bill.
7. It extends the alternative compliance payment policy to Class IA resources and thermal renewable energy credit requirements, and establishes a maximum alternative compliance payment rate of \$50 for Class I, Class IA and thermal renewable energy credits.
8. It creates options for electricity customers that receive service at the transmission or subtransmission voltage level to elect to opt out of Class IA resource portfolio requirements and thermal renewable energy credit requirements and the costs and benefits resulting from long-term contracts for Class IA resources.
9. It requires the Public Utilities Commission to submit a report by March 31, 2024 and every five years thereafter regarding the status and impacts of implementing the portfolio requirements for Class IA resources and thermal renewable energy credits.
10. It amends the long-term contracting provisions in the bill to require two competitive solicitations for contracts with Class IA resources to procure, in total, an amount of energy or renewable energy credits equal to 14% of retail electricity sales in the State during calendar year 2018. It also adds language to allow energy storage systems to be awarded long-term contracts when paired as a complementary resource with a Class IA resource.
11. It directs the Governor's Office of Policy and Management and the Governor's Energy Office to conduct a market assessment study and analysis of opportunities, potential and challenges in meeting the State's renewable energy goals. The report is due January 31, 2021.
12. It adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 477 adds state goals for consumption of electricity from renewable resources and makes several changes to the states renewable portfolio requirements. It updates terminology to use the terms "Class I" and "Class II," which are the terms used in practice and in agency rules and creates a new Class IA renewable resource portfolio requirement. The Class IA requirement combined with the existing Class I requirement provides for an overall increase in renewable resource portfolio requirements to 50% by 2030. The law provides a 300% multiplier for the output of a generator fueled by municipal solid waste in conjunction with recycling with respect to Class II requirements. It also creates a renewable portfolio standard for thermal renewable energy credits and extends the alternative compliance payment policy for Class I resources to the new Class IA resource and thermal renewable energy credit requirements and establishes a maximum alternative compliance payment rate of \$50 for Class I, Class IA and thermal renewable energy credits. The law creates options for electricity customers that receive service at the transmission or subtransmission voltage level to elect to opt out of Class IA resource portfolio requirements and thermal renewable energy credit requirements and from the costs and benefits resulting from long-term contracts for Class IA resources. It requires the Public Utilities Commission to submit a report by March 31, 2024, and every five years thereafter, regarding the status and impacts of implementing the portfolio

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requirements for Class IA resources and thermal renewable energy credits.

This law requires the Public Utilities Commission to conduct two competitive solicitations for long-term contracts with Class IA resources to procure, in total, an amount of energy or renewable energy credits equal to 14% of retail electricity sales in the State during calendar year 2018. It allows energy storage systems to be awarded long-term contracts when paired as a complementary resource with a Class IA resource.

Finally, this law directs the Governor's Office of Policy and Management and the Governor's Energy Office to conduct a market assessment study and analysis of opportunities, potential and challenges in meeting the State's renewable energy goals. The report is due January 31, 2021.

LD 1542 An Act To Allow a Municipality To Choose Its Power Provider

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DENK D	ONTP	

This bill provides a process to allow a municipality to choose a single transmission and distribution utility via a referendum when that municipality is served by more than one utility. The decision to hold a referendum must be made by a majority vote of the municipal officials. A referendum to choose a single utility must occur during a gubernatorial or presidential election in November and must be called, advertised and conducted according to the law relating to municipal elections.

The bill also requires the choice of a single utility to be approved by the Public Utilities Commission. The commission is required to approve the choice if the commission finds that the chosen utility is willing to furnish service to the entire municipality, has the financial ability to meet its obligations under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A and is willing and able to pay a fair and reasonable price, as determined by the commission, for the assets of the second utility needed to furnish service to the entire municipality. Upon approval, the commission is directed to order the second utility to sell its assets used to serve the municipality to the chosen transmission and distribution utility. This bill also allows the commission to adopt routine technical rules to implement these provisions.

LD 1547 An Act To Use 10 Percent of E-9-1-1 Surcharges To Fund Public Safety Answering Point Staff and Projects

Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY N		

This bill directs the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communication Bureau to use 10% of the statewide E-9-1-1 surcharges to fund certain staff positions and capital equipment projects of public safety answering points operated by county governments or other local units of government.

LD 1556 An Act Regarding Filing Fees in Transmission Line Proceedings

PUBLIC 177

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE M	OTP-AM	S-96

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Current law requires that, when a person files with the Public Utilities Commission a petition of approval for the construction, rebuilding or relocation of a transmission line, that person must pay, in addition to the filing fee paid to the commission, an additional filing fee to the Office of the Public Advocate equal to 1/100 of 1% of the estimated cost to erect, rebuild or relocate the transmission line. This bill increases the amount of the additional filing fee to 2/100 of 1% of the estimated cost to erect, rebuild or relocate the transmission line. It also allows the Office of the Public Advocate to recover expenses in the transmission line proceeding that exceed the amount of the original filing fee from the person.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-96)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 177 increases the amount of the filing fee that is required to be paid to the Office of the Public Advocate by a person who files with the Public Utilities Commission a petition of approval for the construction, rebuilding or relocation of a transmission line from 1/100 of 1% to 2/100 of 1% of the estimated cost to erect, rebuild or relocate the transmission line. It also allows the Office of the Public Advocate to recover expenses in the transmission line proceeding that exceed the amount of the original filing fee from the person.

LD 1557 An Act To Adjust the Staffing and Resources of the Office of the Public Advocate PUBLIC 226

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE M	OTP-AM	S-125

This bill allows the Public Advocate to hire an additional employee.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-125)

This amendment adds a provision to the bill to replace, in the Office of the Public Advocate, one Research Assistant position, salary range 30, with one Economic Analyst position, salary range 36, to align compensation with the assigned duties and qualifications of staff.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 226 allows the Public Advocate to hire an additional employee. It also replaces one Research Assistant position, salary range 30, with one Economic Analyst position, salary range 36, to align compensation with the assigned duties and qualifications of staff of the Office of the Public Advocate.

LD 1558 An Act To Change the Definition of "Gas Utility" in the Laws Governing Public Utilities ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE M	ONTP	

This bill includes propane dealers in the definition of "gas utility" in the laws governing public utilities.

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LD 1559 An Act To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Permit the Public Advocate To Access Certain Information Related to a Management Audit

PUBLIC 251

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE M	OTP-AM	S-154

This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission, whenever it initiates a management audit of a public utility, to also open an investigation into the same issues that are the subject of the audit. This investigation is an adjudicatory proceeding with full rights of intervention and participation as allowed under the commission's procedural rules.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-154)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment requires the Public Utilities Commission, upon request of the Public Advocate, to permit the Public Advocate to access certain information in connection with a management audit of a public utility and to provide the Public Advocate the opportunity to comment on information received.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 251 requires the Public Utilities Commission, upon request of the Public Advocate, to permit the Public Advocate to access certain information in connection with a management audit of a public utility and to provide the Public Advocate the opportunity to comment on information received.

LD 1560 An Act Regarding Utility Reorganizations

**PUBLIC 353
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE M	OTP-AM	S-192

This bill provides that a reorganization of a utility may not be approved by the Public Utilities Commission unless it is established by the applicant for approval that the reorganization provides net benefits to the utility's ratepayers and is consistent with the interests of the utility's investors. In determining whether a utility reorganization provides net benefits to the utility's ratepayers, the commission at a minimum must examine whether the reorganization will result in a rate increase for the utility's ratepayers and whether the reorganization will result in a loss of local control of the utility's management and operations in a manner that limits the ability of local management to protect the interests of the utility's ratepayers in this State. This bill applies retroactively to March 27, 2019.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-192)

This amendment limits the application of the requirement in the bill that there be net benefits to ratepayers under a reorganization to only those reorganizations that involve transfer of ownership and control of a public utility or the parent company of a public utility, rather than all reorganizations.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 353 provides that a reorganization of a utility that involves transfer of ownership and control of a public utility or the parent company of a public utility may not be approved by the Public Utilities Commission unless it is established by the applicant for approval that the reorganization provides net benefits to the utility's ratepayers and is consistent with the interests of the utility's investors. In determining whether a reorganization provides net benefits to the utility's ratepayers, the commission at a minimum must examine whether the reorganization will result in a rate increase for the utility's ratepayers and whether the reorganization will result in a loss of local control of the utility's management and operations in a manner that limits the ability of local

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management to protect the interests of the utility's ratepayers in this State. This law applies retroactively to March 27, 2019.

Public Law 2019, chapter 353 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 18, 2019.

LD 1562 An Act To Encourage the Use of Renewable Energy ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE M	ONTP	

This bill establishes the Renewable Energy Program to promote the achievement of the following goal: that, by January 1, 2050, 100% of the energy consumed in this State will be supplied by renewable resources. The bill directs that, no later than January 1, 2030, all electricity purchased by state agencies must be supplied by renewable resources and that, no later than January 1, 2050, all heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems in state-owned or state-leased buildings must be electrical and the electricity must be supplied by renewable resources. It also directs that, no later than January 1, 2050, all vehicles acquired for the state vehicle fleet must be electric vehicles.

LD 1563 An Act To Encourage the Development of Broadband Coverage in Rural Maine CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELLOWS S BERRY S		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to establish the Maine Broadband Initiative to encourage, promote, stimulate, invest in and support universal high-speed broadband to unserved and underserved areas of the State. The bill would also establish the Maine Broadband Initiative Fund to provide ongoing funding for high-speed broadband through funding sources that would be identified in the bill.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 1567 An Act To Change the Deadline for Submission of the Annual Report of the Public Advocate PUBLIC 164

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE M	OTP	

This bill changes the deadline for submission of the annual report of the Public Advocate from August 1st to September 1st.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 164 changes the deadline for submission of the annual report of the Public Advocate from August 1st to September 1st.

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LD 1603 Resolve, To Coordinate a Plan To Expand Cellular Telephone Service

RESOLVE 64

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T BERRY S	OTP-AM	S-155

This bill requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to develop a plan in consultation with the ConnectME Authority to install wireless base stations at state-owned facilities to improve cellular telephone service in underserved areas of the State. It requires the department to direct the relevant state agencies to install and maintain wireless base stations as identified in the plan.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-155)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. The amendment requires the Department of Economic and Community Development, in coordination with the ConnectME Authority, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the University of Maine System, Networkmaine, to develop a plan to leverage state assets to expand cellular telephone service to underserved areas of the State. It requires the Department of Economic and Community Development to submit a report on the plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 64 requires the Department of Economic and Community Development, in coordination with the ConnectME Authority, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the University of Maine System, Networkmaine, to develop a plan to leverage state assets to expand cellular telephone service to underserved areas of the State. It requires the Department of Economic and Community Development to submit a report on the plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report.

**LD 1614 Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Study the Economic,
Environmental and Energy Benefits of Energy Storage to the Maine
Electricity Industry**

RESOLVE 83

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RILEY T WOODSOME D	OTP-AM	H-433

This resolve establishes the Commission To Study the Economic, Environmental and Energy Benefits of Energy Storage to the Maine Electricity Industry.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-433)

This amendment makes the following changes to the resolve.

1. It increases the membership of the Commission To Study the Economic, Environmental and Energy Benefits of Energy Storage to the Maine Electricity Industry from 13 to 14, adding the Public Advocate or the Public Advocate's designee as a member, and requires one of the public members appointed by the President of the Senate to be from the northern part of the State.
2. It removes the limitation that the members representing energy storage owners specifically represent battery

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storage owners.

3. It amends the duties of the commission to include a review of economically efficient and effective implementation approaches to energy storage targets and consideration of bring-your-own-device programs and storm outage and response management programs for behind-the-meter energy storage to reduce peak reduction and increase resiliency.

4. It removes certain language regarding invited staff support from state agencies.

5. It directs the commission to submit its report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 83 establishes the Commission To Study the Economic, Environmental and Energy Benefits of Energy Storage to the Maine Electricity Industry. The commission is required to submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by December 4, 2019.

LD 1622 An Act To Promote the Use of Wood Pellet Central Heating Systems ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T FECTEAU R	ONTP	

This bill directs the Efficiency Maine Trust to provide a rebate from the trust's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Resource Fund in an amount equal to 50% of the purchase price up to \$10,000 of a residential wood pellet central heating system and up to \$20,000 of a nonresidential wood pellet central heating system.

LD 1634 An Act To Create the Maine Clean Energy Fund and To Authorize a CARRIED OVER
General Fund Bond Issue To Capitalize the Fund

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ZEIGLER S		

This bill creates the Maine Clean Energy Fund within and with oversight from the Efficiency Maine Trust to support the development of renewable and clean energy technologies and infrastructure through providing financing support including loans, loan guarantees and other financial and risk mitigation products. The fund is administered by a nine member board of directors consisting of certain government officials and members of the public appointed by the Governor. This bill also provides for a bond issue in the amount of \$100,000,000 to be used to capitalize the Maine Clean Energy Fund.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

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LD 1646 An Act To Restore Local Ownership and Control of Maine's Power Delivery Systems

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S JACKSON T		

This bill creates the Maine Power Delivery Authority as a consumer-owned utility to acquire and operate all transmission and distribution systems in the State currently operated by the investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities known as Central Maine Power Company and Emera Maine.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 1651 An Act To Promote Equitable and Responsible Broadband Investment

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEWART T	ONTP	

This bill creates requirements that a municipality must meet in order to provide broadband service to its residents. It requires the completion of a feasibility study and requires the municipality to hold a referendum to decide whether the municipality may offer broadband service. It includes general operation limitations, including those related to the establishment of rates, the use of subsidization and the use of eminent domain. It requires the adoption of ordinances relating to service quality and enforcement by a municipality that elects to provide broadband service. It also removes antitrust liability protections from a municipality as those protections relate to the municipality's offering broadband service.

The bill also requires that in order to receive any grants from the ConnectME Authority, the municipality must show evidence of compliance with the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, chapter 94.

LD 1681 An Act To Authorize the Public Utilities Commission To Determine the Amount of the E-9-1-1 Surcharge

Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S LAWRENCE M	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish the statewide E-9-1-1 surcharge and the prepaid wireless E-9-1-1 surcharge but limits the surcharges to no more than 45¢ per month per line or number for the statewide E-9-1-1 surcharge and 45¢ per retail transaction for the prepaid wireless E-9-1-1 surcharge, which are the same amounts as in the current law. The bill requires the commission to establish the surcharges by routine technical rules or through other commission proceedings.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-370)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and it incorporates a fiscal note.

This amendment was not adopted.

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LD 1683 An Act To Clarify the Definitions of Consumer-owned Utilities

**PUBLIC 311
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GROHOSKI N LAWRENCE M	OTP-AM	H-478

This bill amends the definition of consumer-owned transmission and distribution utility to clarify that the utility must be wholly owned by consumers who reside in the service territory of the utility and that any municipal or quasi-municipal ownership must be of a municipality or quasi-municipal entity located in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-478)

This amendment amends the definition of "consumer-owned transmission and distribution utility" in the bill. The amendment specifies that a consumer-owned transmission and distribution utility is wholly owned by its consumers, including its consumers served by the utility in this State. The amendment also adds a provision to amend the definition of "consumer-owned water utility" in the same way and makes other clarifying changes to the language in the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 311 amends the definitions of "consumer-owned transmission and distribution utility" and "consumer-water utility" to specify that a consumer-owned utility is wholly owned by its consumers, including its consumers served by the utility in this State.

Public Law 2019, chapter 311 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 17, 2019.

LD 1711 An Act To Promote Solar Energy Projects and Distributed Generation Resources in Maine

PUBLIC 478

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOW D COREY P	OTP-AM ONTP	S-295

This bill makes changes to the laws governing net energy billing and the Maine Solar Energy Act, including:

1. Establishing parameters on the financial interest and limits of accounts for net energy billing;
2. Directing the Public Utilities Commission to establish a pilot program implementing a tariff rate for nonresidential customers of new distributed generation resources if the commission determines a tariff rate is the most cost-effective manner possible to promote the development of distributed generation resources;
3. Amending the Maine Solar Energy Act by: adding specific measures to support solar energy; establishing a standard buyer designation and detailing the standard buyer's obligations and cost allocation; directing the Public Utilities Commission to procure 125 megawatts for the output of distributed generation resources associated with commercial or institutional customer accounts through a bid solicitation process; directing the Public Utilities Commission to procure 250 megawatts for the output of large-scale shared distributed generation resources through a bid solicitation process; and detailing the process by which credits are applied to a customer's bill and how entities that own or operate a large-scale shared distributed generation resource on behalf of customers that own a proportional interest in the large-scale shared distributed generation resource may recover costs incurred on behalf of an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility;

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4. Directing the Public Utilities Commission to report to the Legislature the results of the implemented tariff rates for distributed generation resources and the status of metering and billing system capabilities for investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities;
5. Directing the Public Utilities Commission to evaluate net energy billing when the total amount of generation capacity involved in net energy billing in the State reaches 8% of the total maximum load of transmission and distribution utilities in the State;
6. Directing the Public Utilities Commission to solicit bids for long-term contracts to supply up to 400 megawatts of electricity from solar energy projects; and
7. Directing the Executive Department, Governor's Energy Office to make recommendations to the Legislature regarding long-term contracts for installed capacity and associated renewable energy and renewable energy credits produced by solar energy projects.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-295)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment replaces the bill and does the following:

1. Changes the net energy billing law to: allow a customer to participate if the customer has a financial interest in a distributed generation resource, which is defined as a generator with a capacity of less than five megawatts that uses a renewable resource and is located in the service territory of a transmission and distribution utility in this State; permit any number of customers of an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to share the financial interest, except in the northern Maine grid, where the limit is 10, unless the Public Utilities Commission finds the utility system can accommodate a higher number; and add a new commercial and institutional net energy billing program that provides for a tariff rate for the energy exported by the distributed generation resource that is based on the applicable standard offer rate for the customer plus a percentage of the transmission and distribution utility rate for a specific class of customers;
2. Requires the Public Utilities Commission to report on metering and billing issues to the joint standing committee on utilities and energy and to evaluate net energy billing when certain events occur;
3. Creates a requirement for the procurement of distributed generation resources by each investor-owned electric utility, or by a separate buyer, if one is designated by the commission. The amendment: directs procurements of 125 megawatts of output associated with commercial and institutional accounts and 250 megawatts of shared distributed generation resources to be achieved by July 1, 2024; directs that procurements must be through a competitive bidding process with solicitations for certain blocks of output and contract rates, after the first block, set in declining relation to the previous block; provides procedures to address cases of under-procurement for any block; requires subscriptions to certain portions of shared distributed generation resources to satisfy certain minimum requirements related to the types and sizes of subscribers or subscriptions; and provides for consumer protections and transparency requirements; and
4. Adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 478 makes several changes to net energy billing and requires procurement of distributed generation resources.

It changes the net energy billing law to: allow a customer to participate if the customer has a financial interest in a distributed generation resource, which is defined as a generator with a capacity of less than five megawatts that uses a renewable resource and is located in the service territory of a transmission and distribution utility in this State; permit any number of customers of an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to share the financial interest, except in the northern Maine grid, where the limit is 10, unless the Public Utilities Commission finds the

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utility system can accommodate a higher number; and add a new commercial and institutional net energy billing program that provides for a tariff rate for the energy exported by the distributed generation resource that is based on the applicable standard offer rate for the customer plus a percentage of the transmission and distribution utility rate for a specific class of customers. It also requires the Public Utilities Commission to report on metering and billing issues to the joint standing committee on utilities and energy and to evaluate net energy billing when certain events occur.

This law also requires the procurement of distributed generation resources by each investor-owned electric utility, or by a separate buyer, if one is designated by the commission. Specifically, it requires procurements of 125 megawatts of output associated with commercial and institutional accounts and 250 megawatts of shared distributed generation resources to be achieved by July 1, 2024. It directs that these procurements must be through a competitive bidding process with solicitations for certain blocks of output and contract rates, after the first block, set in declining relation to the previous block and provides procedures to address cases of under-procurement for any block. It requires subscriptions to certain portions of shared distributed generation resources to satisfy certain minimum requirements related to the types and sizes of subscribers or subscriptions and provides for consumer protections and transparency requirements.

LD 1720 An Act To Amend the So-called Dig Safe Law

PUBLIC 322

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE M BERRY S	OTP	

This bill requires excavators to call 9-1-1 if contact with or damage to an underground pipe or another underground facility results in the escape of any natural gas or other hazardous substance or material regulated by the United States Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 322 requires excavators to call 9-1-1 if contact with or damage to an underground pipe or another underground facility results in the escape of any natural gas or other hazardous substance or material regulated by the United States Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

**LD 1741 Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Examine
Performance-based Rates for Electric Utilities**

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GIDEON S LAWRENCE M		

This resolve requires the Public Utilities Commission to open a proceeding to examine the rate plans of each investor-owned transmission and distribution utility in the State. The commission is directed to examine rate design, existing performance metrics and any incentives for efficient operation that are currently in place for each investor-owned transmission and distribution utility and to specifically consider performance measures including a utility's reliability, billing accuracy, level of renewable energy generation integration and customer satisfaction. Based on its review, the commission shall determine the appropriateness of any reasonable rate-adjustment mechanisms, including enhanced positive and negative financial incentives linked to performance.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

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LD 1742 An Act To Encourage Broadband Deployment in Unserved Areas

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WADSWORTH N JACKSON T	ONTP	

This bill facilitates the deployment of broadband infrastructure in unserved areas of this State by establishing the Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program under the ConnectME Authority to award grants to applicants for the purpose of extending deployment of facilities used to provide broadband service to unserved areas of the State and thus to encourage new investment in broadband service infrastructure. The bill eliminates the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund. The bill removes the authority of the ConnectME Authority to require communications service providers to contribute to the ConnectME Fund. It allows the authority to issue bonds for the construction of advanced communications technology infrastructure.

LD 1748 An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SANBORN H STROM S		

This bill allows the Efficiency Maine Trust or a municipality to establish a commercial property assessed clean energy program to finance energy savings improvements on qualifying property.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 1752 An Act To Amend the Charter of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District

P & S 12

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STOVER H	OTP-AM	H-528

This bill updates Private and Special Law 1961, chapter 161, the Charter of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District, to include language from the Standard Sewer District Enabling Act. It also provides for representation of the Town of Boothbay on the board of trustees of the district.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-528)

This amendment removes the provision of the bill that required one trustee on the board of trustees of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District to be elected from the Town of Boothbay and two from the Town of Boothbay Harbor. The amendment also makes a number of technical changes and adds cross-references to bring the charter into conformance with the Standard Sewer District Enabling Act.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2019, chapter 12 updates Private and Special Law 1961, chapter 161, the Charter of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District, to include language from and bring the charter into conformance with the Standard Sewer District Enabling Act.

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**LD 1757 An Act To Clarify Certain Standards for the Efficiency Maine Trust's
Triennial Plan**

**PUBLIC 313
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COOPER J SANBORN H	OTP-AM	H-539

This bill amends the Efficiency Maine Trust Act to:

1. Make changes to the Efficiency Maine Trust's triennial plan, including requiring the Maine State Housing Authority and the Department of Health and Human Services to provide data to the Efficiency Maine Trust regarding households that qualify for low-income programs to assist the trust with developing and implementing the triennial plan. Data received by the trust is subject to a protective order to preserve confidentiality;
2. Clarify the process for the adjudicatory proceeding for the approval or rejection of the triennial plan by the Public Utilities Commission;
3. Extend from 30 days to 90 days the amount of time the Director of the Efficiency Maine Trust has to provide the Efficiency Maine Trust Board with an annual update plan describing significant changes to the triennial plan;
4. Establish standards of review to be used by the commission when reviewing the triennial plan;
5. Remove the requirement that the trust preserve the opportunity for carbon emission reductions to be monetized and sold into a voluntary carbon market; and
6. Require the commission to participate in a New England-wide process to establish a common analysis for determining the avoided costs of energy efficiency resources.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-539)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It adds language to clarify the provision in the bill regarding the requirement for the Maine State Housing Authority and the Department of Health and Human Services to provide data to the Efficiency Maine Trust.
2. It provides that the Public Utilities Commission is required to conduct an adjudicatory proceeding to review the triennial plan if requested by the Efficiency Maine Trust or any party to the triennial plan; otherwise, the commission may use an adjudicatory proceeding or other process to complete the review.
3. It makes other technical changes to clarify language.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 313 amends the Efficiency Maine Trust Act to:

1. Make changes to the Efficiency Maine Trust's triennial plan, including requiring the Maine State Housing Authority and the Department of Health and Human Services to provide data to the Efficiency Maine Trust regarding households that qualify for low-income programs to assist the trust with developing and implementing the triennial plan. Data received by the trust is subject to a protective order to preserve confidentiality;
2. Clarify the process for the proceeding for the approval or rejection of the triennial plan by the Public Utilities Commission. It requires the Public Utilities Commission to conduct an adjudicatory proceeding to review the

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triennial plan if requested by the Efficiency Maine Trust or any party to the triennial plan; otherwise, the commission may use an adjudicatory proceeding or other process to complete the review;

- 3. Extend from 30 days to 90 days the amount of time the Director of the Efficiency Maine Trust has to provide the Efficiency Maine Trust Board with an annual update plan describing significant changes to the triennial plan;
- 4. Establish standards of review to be used by the commission when reviewing the triennial plan;
- 5. Remove the requirement that the trust preserve the opportunity for carbon emission reductions to be monetized and sold into a voluntary carbon market; and
- 6. Require the commission to participate in a New England-wide process to establish a common analysis for determining the avoided costs of energy efficiency resources.

Public Law 2019, chapter 313 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 17, 2019.

LD 1766 An Act To Transform Maine's Heat Pump Market To Advance Economic Security and Climate Objectives

PUBLIC 306

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE M GIDEON S	OTP-AM	S-220

This bill establishes a goal to install 100,000 new high-performance air source heat pumps in the State to provide heating in residential and nonresidential spaces. It defines "high-performance air source heat pump" as an air source heat pump that satisfies minimum heating performance standards as determined by the Efficiency Maine Trust.

The bill directs forward capacity market payments received by the Efficiency Maine Trust to the Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund to promote high-performance air source heat pumps. It directs the Maine State Housing Authority to share information with the Efficiency Maine Trust Board about the extent to which federally funded weatherization programming is available to meet the heat pump goal. It clarifies that in the construction, remodeling or renovation of a multifamily residential structure funded in whole or in part by public funds, guarantees or bond proceeds, high-performance air source heat pumps may be used as the primary heating system without requiring a waiver from the Public Utilities Commission.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-220)

This amendment clarifies the provision in the bill regarding the installation of high-performance air source heat pumps as a primary heating system in the construction, remodeling or renovation of publicly funded multifamily residential structures. The amendment makes technical changes to bring consistency to language in the bill relating to the types of measures funded by the Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund.

Enacted Law Summary

This bill establishes a goal to install 100,000 new high-performance air source heat pumps in the State to provide heating in residential and nonresidential spaces. It defines "high-performance air source heat pump" as an air source heat pump that satisfies minimum heating performance standards as determined by the Efficiency Maine Trust.

The bill directs forward capacity market payments received by the Efficiency Maine Trust to the Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund to promote high-performance air source heat pumps. It directs the Maine State Housing Authority to share information with the Efficiency Maine Trust Board about the extent to which federally funded weatherization programming is available to meet the heat pump goal. It clarifies that in the construction, remodeling or renovation of a multifamily residential structure funded in whole or in part by public funds,

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guarantees or bond proceeds, high-performance air source heat pumps may be used as the primary heating system without requiring a waiver from the Public Utilities Commission.

LD 1796 Resolve, To Study Transmission Grid Reliability and Rate Stability in Northern Maine RESOLVE 71

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEWART T JACKSON T	OTP-AM	H-480

This resolve directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene a stakeholder group to identify and develop strategies to address the transmission grid reliability and electric rate stability for the northern Maine service territory. The Governor's Energy Office is directed to submit a report that includes its findings, together with any proposed implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by December 4, 2019, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-480)

This amendment changes the reporting date from December 4, 2019 to March 1, 2020.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 71 directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene a stakeholder group to identify and develop strategies to address the transmission grid reliability and electric rate stability for the northern Maine service territory. The Governor's Energy Office is directed to submit a report that includes its findings, together with any proposed implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by March 1, 2020, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

LD 1800 An Act To Modernize the E-9-1-1 Laws To Include Text Messaging and Other Methods of Contacting E-9-1-1 PUBLIC 339

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S	OTP	

This bill makes changes to the emergency services communication laws to reflect that text messaging and other methods can be used to contact E-9-1-1.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 339 makes changes to the emergency services communication laws to reflect that text messaging and other methods can be used to contact E-9-1-1.

LD 1844 Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Evaluate the Ownership of Maine's Power Delivery Systems RESOLVE 107

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
		S-362 LIBBY N

This resolve directs the Public Utilities Commission to evaluate the proposal for creation of the Maine Power Delivery Authority as presented in L.D. 1646, An Act To Restore Local Ownership and Control of Maine's Power Delivery Systems. It requires the commission to contract with an independent consultant or consultants

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with relevant expertise to assist the commission with the evaluation. It requires the commission to submit a report on the evaluation no later than February 15, 2020 that includes results, findings and recommendations and specifies which aspects of the evaluation have been completed and which require further study. The resolve authorizes the commission to use funds from the Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fund to carry out the required evaluation and includes an appropriations and allocations section.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-362)

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 107 directs the Public Utilities Commission to evaluate the proposal for creation of the Maine Power Delivery Authority as presented in L.D. 1646, An Act To Restore Local Ownership and Control of Maine's Power Delivery Systems. It requires the commission to contract with an independent consultant or consultants with relevant expertise to assist the commission with the evaluation. It requires the commission to submit a report on the evaluation no later than February 15, 2020 that includes results, findings and recommendations and specifies which aspects of the evaluation have been completed and which require further study. Finally, the resolve authorizes the commission to use funds from the Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fund to carry out the required evaluation.

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Agency Matters – PUC/OPA/GEO/EMT

Enacted

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LD 807	An Act Regarding the Duties of the Public Advocate	PUBLIC 71
LD 1556	An Act Regarding Filing Fees in Transmission Line Proceedings	PUBLIC 177
LD 1557	An Act To Adjust the Staffing and Resources of the Office of the Public Advocate	PUBLIC 226
LD 1559	An Act To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Permit the Public Advocate To Access Certain Information Related to a Management Audit	PUBLIC 251
LD 1567	An Act To Change the Deadline for Submission of the Annual Report of the Public Advocate	PUBLIC 164
LD 1757	An Act To Clarify Certain Standards for the Efficiency Maine Trust's Triennial Plan	PUBLIC 313 EMERGENCY

Not Enacted

LD 1120	An Act To Protect Consumers from Price Gouging by Utility Companies	Majority (ONTP) Report
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Broadband/ConnectME Authority

Enacted

LD 31	An Act Regarding Rules Adopted by the ConnectME Authority	PUBLIC 2
LD 147	An Act To Extend Internet Availability in Rural Maine	PUBLIC 52 EMERGENCY
LD 383	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: ConnectME Authority, a Major Substantive Rule of the ConnectME Authority	RESOLVE 21 EMERGENCY

LD 946	An Act To Protect the Privacy of Online Customer Information	PUBLIC 216
LD 1063	An Act To Support the Role of Municipalities in Expanding Broadband Infrastructure	PUBLIC 108
LD 1248	Resolve, To Direct the ConnectME Authority To Report on the Progress of the Detailed 2019-2021 Strategic Plan for Broadband Service in Maine	RESOLVE 33
LD 1364	An Act Regarding Net Neutrality and Internet Policy	PUBLIC 468

Not Enacted

LD 173	An Act To Promote Economic Development and Critical Communications for Family Farms, Businesses and Residences by Strategic Public Investment in High-speed Internet	CARRIED OVER
LD 224	An Act To Fund the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund	ONTP
LD 1563	An Act To Encourage the Development of Broadband Coverage in Rural Maine	CARRIED OVER
LD 1651	An Act To Promote Equitable and Responsible Broadband Investment	ONTP
LD 1742	An Act To Encourage Broadband Deployment in Unserved Areas	ONTP

Cable Television

Enacted

LD 832	An Act To Expand Options for Consumers of Cable Television in Purchasing Individual Channels and Programs	PUBLIC 308
LD 1371	An Act To Ensure Nondiscriminatory Treatment of Public, Educational and Governmental Access Channels by Cable System Operators	PUBLIC 245

Dig Safe

Enacted

LD 1720	An Act To Amend the So-called Dig Safe Law	PUBLIC 322
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E-9-1-1

Enacted

LD 674	Resolve, Regarding Implementation and Funding of E-9-1-1 Dispatch Protocols	RESOLVE 24
LD 1800	An Act To Modernize the E-9-1-1 Laws To Include Text Messaging and Other Methods of Contacting E-9-1-1	PUBLIC 339

Not Enacted

LD 743	An Act To Create Local Options in E-9-1-1 Protocol Mandates	ONTP
LD 1547	An Act To Use 10 Percent of E-9-1-1 Surcharges To Fund Public Safety Answering Point Staff and Projects	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310
LD 1681	An Act To Authorize the Public Utilities Commission To Determine the Amount of the E-9-1-1 Surcharge	Majority (ONTP) Report

Electricity

Enacted

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LD 581	An Act To Direct Electric Utilities To Provide Comparative Usage Data on Customer Billing Statements	PUBLIC 81
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LD 1003	An Act To Ensure Accurate Explanations of Electric Bills	PUBLIC 88
LD 1173	An Act To Allow the Direct Sale of Electricity	PUBLIC 205
LD 1181	An Act To Reduce Electricity Costs through Nonwires Alternatives	PUBLIC 298

LD 1186	An Act To Address Electricity Costs of Agricultural Fairs	PUBLIC 169 EMERGENCY
LD 1192	An Act To Establish Municipal Access to Utility Poles Located in Municipal Rights-of-way	PUBLIC 127
LD 1464	An Act To Support Electrification of Certain Technologies for the Benefit of Maine Consumers and Utility Systems and the Environment	PUBLIC 365
LD 1614	Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Study the Economic, Environmental and Energy Benefits of Energy Storage to the Maine Electricity Industry	RESOLVE 83
LD 1796	Resolve, To Study Transmission Grid Reliability and Rate Stability in Northern Maine	RESOLVE 71
LD 1844	Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Evaluate the Ownership of Maine's Power Delivery Systems	RESOLVE 107

Not Enacted

LD 13	An Act To Allow Microgrids That Are in the Public Interest	CARRIED OVER
LD 271	An Act Regarding a Transmission and Distribution Utility's Use of the Right of Eminent Domain To Locate Its Transmission Lines	ONTP
LD 918	An Act Regarding Utility Line Extensions	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 980	An Act To Amend Provisions of the Maine Energy Cost Reduction Act Regarding Assessments on Ratepayers	ONTP
LD 1060	An Act To Authorize Consumers Located Adjacent to Electric Power Generators To Obtain Power Directly	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 1363	An Act To Amend Certain Laws Relating to High-impact Electric Transmission Lines	Veto Sustained
LD 1383	An Act To Amend Maine's Municipal Land Use and Eminent Domain Laws Regarding High-impact Electric Transmission Lines	Veto Sustained
LD 1542	An Act To Allow a Municipality To Choose Its Power Provider	ONTP
LD 1646	An Act To Restore Local Ownership and Control of Maine's Power Delivery Systems	CARRIED OVER
LD 1741	Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Examine Performance-based Rates for Electric Utilities	CARRIED OVER

Energy Efficiency

Enacted

LD 398	An Act To Allow for Greater Flexibility in Addressing Energy Efficiency Needs in the State	PUBLIC 69
LD 1766	An Act To Transform Maine's Heat Pump Market To Advance Economic Security and Climate Objectives	PUBLIC 306

Not Enacted

LD 1048	An Act To Encourage Conservation in Determining Natural Gas Rates	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 1231	An Act To Fund Energy Efficiency Programs through a Fee on the Sale of Unregulated Heating Fuels	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 1398	An Act To Allow the Efficiency Maine Trust To Provide Support for New Home Construction	ONTP
LD 1748	An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs	CARRIED OVER

Energy Policy

Enacted

LD 658	Resolve, To Increase Energy Independence for Maine	RESOLVE 30
LD 1282	An Act To Establish a Green New Deal for Maine	PUBLIC 347

Not Enacted

LD 434	An Act To Price Carbon Pollution in Maine	ONTP
LD 754	An Act To Ensure the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund Continues To Promote Energy Efficiency and Benefit Maine Ratepayers	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 950	An Act To Develop a State Energy Plan To Provide a Pathway to an Energy Portfolio Free of Fossil Fuels	ONTP
LD 1634	An Act To Create the Maine Clean Energy Fund and To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Capitalize the Fund	CARRIED OVER

Miscellaneous

Enacted

LD 614	An Act To Increase Electric Vehicles in Maine	PUBLIC 258
LD 1436	Resolve, Directing Coordinated State Agencies To Engage with the Governing Leaderships of Portland Pipe Line Corporation and Montreal Pipe Line Limited for Sustainability-centered Repurposing of Stranded and At-risk Infrastructure Assets in Maine	RESOLVE 77

Not Enacted

LD 1299	An Act To Incentivize Municipalities, State Agencies, Colleges and Universities To Use Electric Vehicles	ONTP
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Natural Gas

Not Enacted

LD 1558	An Act To Change the Definition of "Gas Utility" in the Laws Governing Public Utilities	ONTP
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Renewable Resources

Enacted

LD 91	An Act To Eliminate Gross Metering	PUBLIC 16
LD 994	Resolve, To Require the Approval by the Public Utilities Commission of a Proposal for a Long-term Contract for Deep-water Offshore Wind Energy	RESOLVE 87
LD 1401	Resolve, To Study Transmission Solutions To Enable Renewable Energy Investment in the State	RESOLVE 57
LD 1494	An Act To Reform Maine's Renewable Portfolio Standard	PUBLIC 477
LD 1711	An Act To Promote Solar Energy Projects and Distributed Generation Resources in Maine	PUBLIC 478

Not Enacted

LD 41	An Act To Replace Net Energy Billing with a Market-based Mechanism	Majority (ONTP) Report
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LD 143	An Act To Protect Electric Ratepayers from Gross Output Metering Costs	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310
LD 273	An Act To Require Transmission and Distribution Utilities To Purchase Electricity from Renewable Resources at Certain Prices	ONTP
LD 334	An Act To Change the Definition of "Renewable Capacity Resource"	ONTP
LD 790	An Act To Eliminate the Cap on the Number of Accounts or Meters Designated for Net Energy Billing	CARRIED OVER
LD 912	An Act To Establish the Wood Energy Investment Program	CARRIED OVER
LD 1027	An Act To Eliminate the 100-megawatt Limit on Hydroelectric Generators under the Renewable Resources Laws	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 1127	An Act To Expand Community-based Solar Energy in Maine	CARRIED OVER
LD 1139	An Act To Eliminate Restrictions on Capacity and the Number of Accounts for Net Energy Billing	ONTP
LD 1279	An Act To Modernize Maine's Renewable Portfolio Standard	ONTP
LD 1465	An Act To Diversify Maine's Energy Portfolio with Renewable Energy	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310
LD 1562	An Act To Encourage the Use of Renewable Energy	ONTP
LD 1622	An Act To Promote the Use of Wood Pellet Central Heating Systems	ONTP

Telecommunications

Enacted

LD 1603	Resolve, To Coordinate a Plan To Expand Cellular Telephone Service	RESOLVE 64
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Utilities - General

Enacted

LD 1206	An Act Regarding Utility Poles in Public Rights-of-way	PUBLIC 128
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LD 1560	An Act Regarding Utility Reorganizations	PUBLIC 353 EMERGENCY
LD 1683	An Act To Clarify the Definitions of Consumer-owned Utilities	PUBLIC 311 EMERGENCY

Water/Sewer/Sanitary - General

Enacted

LD 347	An Act To Provide Sustainable Funding for Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure	PUBLIC 423
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Not Enacted

LD 1198	An Act To Ensure Transparency and Participation in Maine Water Districts	Majority (ONTP) Report
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Water/Sewer/Sanitary Charters

Enacted

LD 346	An Act To Amend the Brunswick Sewer District Charter	P & S 1
LD 1469	An Act To Amend the Charter of the Rumford-Mexico Sewerage District	P & S 8
LD 1752	An Act To Amend the Charter of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District	P & S 12

Not Enacted

LD 432	An Act To Amend the Greater Augusta Utility District Charter	CARRIED OVER
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