

STATE OF MAINE  
132<sup>ND</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

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

May 2026

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# *Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology*

## **SUBJECT INDEX**

### **Agency Matters - PUC/OPA/GEO/EMT**

|                |         |   |            |
|----------------|---------|---|------------|
| <b>Enacted</b> | LD 32   | An Act Regarding the Interconnection Ombudsman Position at the Public Utilities Commission                    | PUBLIC 680 |
|                | LD 2153 | An Act to Transfer the Responsibilities of the Governor's Energy Office to the Department of Energy Resources | PUBLIC 597 |

### **Broadband/ConnectME Authority/Maine Connectivity Authority**

|                |         |  |             |
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| <b>Enacted</b> | LD 1975 | Resolve, Directing the Maine Connectivity Authority to Develop Recommendations to Transition Functions Performed by the ConnectMaine Authority to the Maine Connectivity Authority | RESOLVE 141 |
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### **Electricity**

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| <b>Enacted</b>     | LD 897  | An Act Regarding the Nonwires Alternative Process and Required Negative Pricing Provisions in Contracts for Energy Resulting from Competitive Solicitations Conducted by the Public Utilities Commission | PUBLIC 681                                   |
|                    | LD 2038 | An Act to Require Maine Transmission and Distribution Utility Participation in a Regional Transmission Organization  | PUBLIC 646                                   |
|                    | LD 2112 | An Act to Authorize Municipalities to Form Community Choice Aggregation Programs to Procure Electricity  | PUBLIC 665                                   |
| <b>Not Enacted</b> | LD 694  | An Act to Require Petitions for Interstate Transmission Lines to Include Provisions for Conservation Funding   | Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310 |
|                    | LD 838  | Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Options for Public Financing of Transmission and Distribution Infrastructure, Generation Projects and Energy Storage Projects                              | Died On Adjournment                          |

### **Electricity Rates/Consumer Protection**

|                |         |                                  |            |
|----------------|---------|----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Enacted</b> | LD 1949 | An Act Regarding Energy Fairness | PUBLIC 588 |
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LD 1964 An Act to Establish Additional Requirements Related to the Sale or Lease of Net Energy Billing Interests and Solar Energy Equipment PUBLIC 575

LD 2203 An Act to Limit Rates Charged to Low-income Electricity Consumers PUBLIC 640

**Not  
Enacted**

LD 995 An Act to Provide Funding for Low-income Electric Ratepayer Assistance Died On Adjournment

### **Energy Efficiency**

**Enacted**

LD 2140 Resolve, to Establish a Demand Response Program to Lower Electric Bills and Improve Grid Reliability RESOLVE 162

LD 2220 An Act to Establish the Maine Home Energy Navigator and Coaching Resource Hub PUBLIC 703

### **Energy Planning**

**Enacted**

LD 343 An Act to Incorporate the Assessment of Emerging Energy Technologies into the Comprehensive State Energy Plan PUBLIC 558

LD 1850 Resolve, to Improve Interagency Coordination and Information Accessibility Regarding Renewable Energy Construction Projects RESOLVE 131

**Not  
Enacted**

LD 596 Resolve, to Provide Legislative Approval of Northern Maine Transmission Infrastructure ONTP

LD 2113 An Act to Align Long-range Grid Strategy with the State Energy Plan and Strengthen Integrated Grid Planning ONTP

### **Miscellaneous**

**Not  
Enacted**

LD 307 An Act to Establish the Maine Data Center Coordination Council and Place a Temporary Limitation on Certain Data Centers Veto Sustained

LD 1420 Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Ensure a Just and Equitable Energy Transition for Maine's Workforce Died On Adjournment

### **Net Energy Billing**

**Enacted**

LD 839 An Act to Create the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund PUBLIC 532

LD 1936 An Act Regarding the Allocation of Net Energy Billing Costs and Long-term Contract Costs and Benefits PUBLIC 555

LD 1966 An Act to Increase Disclosure of Utility Charges and Improve Access to Distributed Generation Resources in the State PUBLIC 766

**Solar Energy**

**Enacted** LD 1730 An Act to Make Small Plug-in Solar Generation Devices Accessible for All Maine Residents to Address the Energy Affordability Crisis PUBLIC 644

**Water/Sewer/Sanitary Charters**

**Enacted** LD 2041 An Act to Increase the Debt Limit of the North Jay Water District P & S 11

LD 2043 An Act to Raise the Ogunquit Sewer District Debt Limit P & S 13

LD 2234 An Act to Increase the Debt Limit of the Vinalhaven Water District P & S 17

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| Committee | LD   | Title  | Sponsor          | Committee Vote     | Disposition                                  | Law | Ch # | Analyst Note |
|-----------|------|--|------------------|--------------------|--|-----|------|--------------|
| EUT       | 32   | An Act Regarding the Interconnection Ombudsman Position at the Public Utilities Commission   | Guerin, Stacey   | OTP-AM/OTP-AM      | Enacted                                      | PL  | 680  |              |
| EUT       | 307  | An Act to Establish the Maine Data Center Coordination Council and Place a Temporary Limitation on Certain Data Centers  | Sachs, Melanie   | OTP-AM/OTP-AM/ONTP | Veto Sustained                               |     |      |              |
| EUT       | 343  | An Act to Incorporate the Assessment of Emerging Energy Technologies into the Comprehensive State Energy Plan  | Paul, Reagan     | OTP-AM/OTP-AM      | Enacted                                      | PL  | 558  |              |
| EUT       | 596  | Resolve, to Provide Legislative Approval of Northern Maine Transmission Infrastructure   | Lawrence, Mark   | ONTP               | Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310 |     |      |              |
| EUT       | 694  | An Act to Require Petitions for Interstate Transmission Lines to Include Provisions for Conservation Funding   | Pierce, Teresa   | LTW                | Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310 |     |      |              |
| EUT       | 838  | Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Options for Public Financing of Transmission and Distribution Infrastructure, Generation Projects and Energy Storage Projects                              | Lawrence, Mark   | OTP-AM/ONTP        | Died On Adjournment                          |     |      |              |
| EUT       | 839  | An Act to Create the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund  | Stewart, Trey    | OTP-AM/OTP-AM      | Enacted                                      | PL  | 532  |              |
| EUT       | 897  | An Act Regarding the Nonwires Alternative Process and Required Negative Pricing Provisions in Contracts for Energy Resulting from Competitive Solicitations Conducted by the Public Utilities Commission | Lawrence, Mark   | OTP-AM/OTP-AM/ONTP | Enacted                                      | PL  | 681  |              |
| EUT       | 995  | An Act to Provide Funding for Low-income Electric Ratepayer Assistance   | Sachs, Melanie   | OTP-AM/ONTP        | Died On Adjournment                          |     |      |              |
| EUT       | 1420 | Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Ensure a Just and Equitable Energy Transition for Maine's Workforce  | Lawrence, Mark   | OTP-AM/ONTP        | Died On Adjournment                          |     |      |              |
| EUT       | 1730 | An Act to Make Small Plug-in Solar Generation Devices Accessible for All Maine Residents to Address the Energy Affordability Crisis  | Grohoski, Nicole | OTP-AM/ONTP        | Enacted                                      | PL  | 644  |              |

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| Committee | LD   | Title  | Sponsor              | Committee Vote       | Disposition                                  | Law     | Ch # | Analyst Note |
|-----------|------|--|----------------------|----------------------|--|---------|------|--------------|
| EUT       | 1850 | Resolve, to Improve Interagency Coordination and Information Accessibility Regarding Renewable Energy Construction Projects  | Webb, Kilton         | OTP-AM/ONTP          | Finally Passed                               | Resolve | 131  |              |
| EUT       | 1936 | An Act Regarding the Allocation of Net Energy Billing Costs and Long-term Contract Costs and Benefits  | Grohoski, Nicole     | OTP-AM/ONTP          | Enacted                                      | PL      | 555  |              |
| EUT       | 1949 | An Act Regarding Energy Fairness   | Carney, Anne         | OTP-AM/ONTP          | Enacted                                      | PL      | 588  |              |
| EUT       | 1964 | An Act to Establish Additional Requirements Related to the Sale or Lease of Net Energy Billing Interests and Solar Energy Equipment  | Black, Russell       | OTP-AM               | Emergency Enacted                            | PL      | 575  |              |
| EUT       | 1966 | An Act to Increase Disclosure of Utility Charges and Improve Access to Distributed Generation Resources in the State   | Warren, Sophia       | OTP-AM/ONTP          | Enacted                                      | PL      | 766  |              |
| EUT       | 1975 | Resolve, Directing the Maine Connectivity Authority to Develop Recommendations to Transition Functions Performed by the ConnectMaine Authority to the Maine Connectivity Authority | Ducharme, Jack       | OTP-AM/OTP-AM/OTP-AM | Finally Passed                               | Resolve | 141  |              |
| EUT       | 2038 | An Act to Require Maine Transmission and Distribution Utility Participation in a Regional Transmission Organization  | Kessler, Christopher | OTP-AM/ONTP          | Enacted                                      | PL      | 646  |              |
| EUT       | 2041 | An Act to Increase the Debt Limit of the North Jay Water District  | Lyman, Sheila        | OTP-AM               | Emergency Enacted                            | P&S     | 11   |              |
| EUT       | 2043 | An Act to Raise the Ogunquit Sewer District Debt Limit   | Lawrence, Mark       | OTP                  | Enacted                                      | P&S     | 13   |              |
| EUT       | 2112 | An Act to Authorize Municipalities to Form Community Choice Aggregation Programs to Procure Electricity  | Runte, Jr., Walter   | OTP-AM/ONTP          | Enacted                                      | PL      | 665  |              |
| EUT       | 2113 | An Act to Align Long-range Grid Strategy with the State Energy Plan and Strengthen Integrated Grid Planning  | Runte, Jr., Walter   | ONTP                 | Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310 |         |      |              |
| EUT       | 2140 | Resolve, to Establish a Demand Response Program to Lower Electric Bills and Improve Grid Reliability   | Tepler, Denise       | OTP-AM/ONTP          | Finally Passed                               | Resolve | 162  |              |

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| Committee | LD   | Title   | Sponsor      | Committee Vote | Disposition       | Law | Ch # | Analyst Note |
|-----------|------|---|--------------|----------------|-------------------|-----|------|--------------|
| EUT       | 2153 | An Act to Transfer the Responsibilities of the Governor's Energy Office to the Department of Energy Resources |              | OTP-AM/ONTP    | Enacted           | PL  | 597  |              |
| EUT       | 2203 | An Act to Limit Rates Charged to Low-income Electricity Consumers   |              | OTP-AM/ONTP    | Enacted           | PL  | 640  |              |
| EUT       | 2220 | An Act to Establish the Maine Home Energy Navigator and Coaching Resource Hub                                 |              | OTP-AM/ONTP    | Enacted           | PL  | 703  |              |
| EUT       | 2234 | An Act to Increase the Debt Limit of the Vinalhaven Water District  | Eaton, Holly | OTP            | Emergency Enacted | P&S | 17   |              |

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**LD 32 An Act Regarding the Interconnection Ombudsman Position at the Public Utilities Commission**

Public Law 2025, chapter 680 removes the requirement that the interconnection ombudsman be appointed by the Public Utilities Commission and instead requires that the commission designate an interconnection ombudsman. The law also clarifies the activities that may be funded by the interconnection ombudsman fund established within the Public Utilities Commission.

**LD 343 An Act to Incorporate the Assessment of Emerging Energy Technologies into the Comprehensive State Energy Plan**

Public Law 2025, chapter 558 requires the state energy plan prepared by the Department of Energy Resources to identify and assess emerging energy technologies.

**LD 839 An Act to Create the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund**

Public Law 2025, chapter 532 establishes the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund within the Public Utilities Commission. The law provides that the fund must be used to reimburse a transmission and distribution utility for any costs incurred as a result of the State's net energy billing programs that would have otherwise been paid by ratepayers. The law requires the commission to submit to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over electricity matters a report that includes information about funds received by the fund and used for reimbursements for any year in which the commission pays reimbursements through the fund. It authorizes the commission to adopt rules to implement the requirements of the law and includes a \$500 appropriation for the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund.

Public Law 2025, chapter 532 was finally enacted in both the House and the Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session in 2025 but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Public Law 2025, chapter 532 became law without the Governor's signature on January 11, 2026.

**LD 897 An Act Regarding the Nonwires Alternative Process and Required Negative Pricing Provisions in Contracts for Energy Resulting from Competitive Solicitations Conducted by the Public Utilities Commission**

Public Law 2025, chapter 681 requires an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to submit a planning study for small transmission projects and distribution projects to the Public Utilities Commission in addition to the Office of the Public Advocate. The law also requires the nonwires alternative coordinator to identify in a proposed plan for procurement of the recommended nonwires alternatives whether the components are behind the meter or on the grid side of the meter and allows the commission to adopt rules relating to the nonwires alternatives investigation and recommendations.

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Public Law 2025, chapter 681 also changes the requirement for contract provisions governing negative pricing in contracts for energy resulting from competitive solicitations conducted by the commission by requiring the contract to include a provision that requires the reduction of payments under the contract by the absolute value of the applicable negative price multiplied by the energy produced and delivered under the contract.

**LD 1730 An Act to Make Small Plug-in Solar Generation Devices Accessible for All Maine Residents to Address the Energy Affordability Crisis**

Public Law 2025, chapter 644 excepts from certain requirements the installation and operation of one or more eligible plug-in photovoltaic systems and plug-in battery systems by retail electricity customers for offsetting on-site electricity consumption. The law establishes requirements for plug-in photovoltaic systems and plug-in battery systems to qualify for the exception, including safety standards and capacity limits, and prohibits the use of eligible systems for net energy billing. The law also establishes requirements for the retail customer's installation and removal of such systems on or in a structure the retail customer does not own.

**LD 1850 Resolve, to Improve Interagency Coordination and Information Accessibility Regarding Renewable Energy Construction Projects**

Resolve 2025, chapter 131 directs the Governor's Energy Office to coordinate with state agencies that permit, regulate or provide state assistance to renewable energy construction projects, including, but not limited to, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Labor, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Public Utilities Commission, to evaluate how to display and maintain data regarding renewable energy construction projects in an efficient, meaningful and publicly accessible manner for the purposes of identifying renewable energy trends in Maine, including through the development of a database. The evaluation must provide a method to make the data publicly available and, to the extent practicable, a method for obtaining information from renewable energy construction developers. The law establishes evaluation criteria that the office must use in conducting the evaluation and requires the office to submit a report on the evaluation to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by February 1, 2026. The committee may report out a bill based on the office's report.

Resolve 2025, chapter 131 was finally passed in both the House and the Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session in 2025 but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Resolve 2025, chapter 131 became law without the Governor's signature on January 11, 2026.

Resolve 2025, chapter 131 was subsequently amended by Public Law 2025, chapter 757 to update references to the former Governor's Energy Office to the Department of Energy Resources, pursuant to Public Law 2025, chapter 476, and to change the date by which the Department of Energy Resources must submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having

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jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters on the evaluation required by Resolve 2025, chapter 131.

**LD 1936 An Act Regarding the Allocation of Net Energy Billing Costs and Long-term Contract Costs and Benefits**

Public Law 2025, chapter 555 removes the requirement that the Public Utilities Commission allocate to each investor-owned transmission and distribution utility its pro rata share of certain costs and instead requires the commission, for post-restructuring stranded cost allocations and rate designs applicable on or after July 1, 2028, to allocate net energy billing costs and eligible costs and benefits associated with long-term contracts by aggregating similar classes of customers across investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities and ensuring that costs and benefits are distributed equitably. The law adds a cross-reference regarding beneficial electrification and amends the provision of law governing long-term contract costs to include costs associated with contracts entered into as a result of procurements by the Department of Energy Resources.

**LD 1949 An Act Regarding Energy Fairness**

Public Law 2025, chapter 588 requires the Public Utilities Commission, in executing its duties, powers and regulatory functions under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, while ensuring system reliability, to consider the impact on affordability for residential customers. Public Law 2025, chapter 588 also does the following.

1. It requires the commission to publish on its publicly accessible website data regarding credit and collection activities of a transmission and distribution utility with more than 50,000 customers that is submitted to the commission by the utility in accordance with commission rules. The commission must ensure that the data is provided in a clear and transparent manner.
2. It requires the commission to conduct a comprehensive review of each component of electric delivery rates. In conducting the review, the commission must consider, at a minimum, options that aim to contain customer costs in electric delivery rates, reduce transmission and distribution utility bill volatility and increase transmission and distribution utility bill transparency. By January 31, 2027, the commission must submit an interim report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters informing the committee of its work to date on the comprehensive review. The commission must submit a final report to the committee by December 15, 2027.
3. It requires the commission to develop an affordability metric to be used to assess the impact of electricity bills on the overall energy burden for residential customers of an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility. By January 15, 2027, the commission must submit an interim report regarding the development of the affordability metric to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters. The commission must submit a final report to the committee by December 15, 2027.

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**LD 1964 An Act to Establish Additional Requirements Related to the Sale or Lease of Net Energy Billing Interests and Solar Energy Equipment**

Public Law 2025, chapter 575 does the following.

1. It makes misrepresentation as a representative or affiliate of an electric utility or representative or official of a governmental agency or program when selling, offering to sell, leasing, installing or entering into any other financial arrangement regarding an electricity product a violation of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act.
2. It clarifies the definition of “merchandise” for the purposes of the laws governing consumer solicitation sales to specify that “merchandise” includes a contract for a shared financial interest in a distributed generation resource that has a net energy billing arrangement in the kilowatt-hour credit or commercial and institutional net energy billing program as well as solar energy equipment.
3. It clarifies the definition of “merchandise” for the purposes of the laws governing transient sellers of consumer merchandise to specify that “merchandise” includes a contract for a shared financial interest in a distributed generation resource that has a net energy billing arrangement in the kilowatt-hour credit or commercial and institutional net energy billing program as well as solar energy equipment.
4. Beginning June 1, 2026, it requires a person who sells or leases solar energy equipment that is installed on the customer side of the meter to provide a standard written disclosure to a customer prior to a sale or lease. A failure to provide the standard written disclosure as required by the law is a violation of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act. The Department of Energy Resources must develop two model standard written disclosure forms for the sale and for the lease of solar energy equipment and make the disclosure forms available on the department’s publicly accessible website.
5. By March 1, 2026, it requires each large, investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to annually provide the interconnection ombudsman with the average interconnection costs for the previous calendar year by project size. By May 1, starting in 2026, the interconnection ombudsman must annually publish the average interconnection costs by project size on the Public Utilities Commission’s website.

Public Law 2025, chapter 575 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 19, 2026.

**LD 1966 An Act to Increase Disclosure of Utility Charges and Improve Access to Distributed Generation Resources in the State**

Public Law 2025, chapter 766 does the following.

1. It requires a transmission and distribution utility with over 50,000 customers to disclose any administrative charges included in a customer bill for work funded directly by that customer.

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If any line item in a customer bill includes an administrative charge, the bill must specifically identify the charge and include a description.

2. It directs the Public Utilities Commission, by rule, to prohibit an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility that does not include all expenses that may be recovered in rates in a customer's delivery cost, from labeling such expenses or any combination thereof as public policy charges or a substantially similar term on customer bills. The rules must require the investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to label such expenses or combination of expenses in a way that the commission determines is objective and assists customers in understanding these expenses.
3. It directs the commission to adopt rules to establish billing and disclosure standards for distributed generation resources with customers who participate in a net energy billing arrangement based upon shared financial interest. The rules must include standardized methods for presenting savings rates in a clear and consistent manner and require identification of all charges.
4. It requires the commission, by September 1, 2026, to initiate a competitive solicitation to procure up to four megawatts of energy from one or more distributed generation resources. Eligible distributed generation resource projects must have a nameplate capacity of no more than 200 kilowatts; serve only low-income customers and moderate-income households; be wholly owned by its customer or customers or wholly owned by a cooperative corporation; provide discounts or payments to its customers to offset its customers' electricity bills in a manner similar to customers receiving kilowatt-hour credits as determined by the commission; be placed in service on or after August 1, 2026; and be connected to the electric grid of an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility in the State. The commission must select an eligible project for a contract if at least one bid is received that meets the requirements of the legislation and the bid price does not exceed a certain threshold. Contracts resulting from the procurement may not have a term greater than 20 years and must require the sale of all renewable energy credits generated by the project.
5. It directs the commission to amend rules establishing consumer protections in net energy billing arrangements to create exemptions to the otherwise applicable requirements related to subscription sizing and payments for unused kilowatt-hour credits for certain types of distributed generation resources. The law also directs the commission to amend its rule prohibiting participation in more than one shared financial interest net energy billing agreement per residential account to ensure that it does not apply to net energy billing agreements related to a distributed generation resource in which a customer has an ownership interest.

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**LD 1975 Resolve, Directing the Maine Connectivity Authority to Develop Recommendations to Transition Functions Performed by the ConnectMaine Authority to the Maine Connectivity Authority**

Resolve 2025, chapter 141 directs the Maine Connectivity Authority, in consultation with the ConnectMaine Authority, to review the laws governing the administration and activities of the ConnectMaine Authority and develop recommendations for any legislative changes necessary to transition functions performed by the ConnectMaine Authority to the Maine Connectivity Authority by October 1, 2027. On or before January 15, 2027, the Maine Connectivity Authority must submit a report containing the recommendations resulting from its review, including any proposed legislation, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters. After reviewing the report, the joint standing committee may report out a bill related to the Maine Connectivity Authority's recommendations to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

**LD 2038 An Act to Require Maine Transmission and Distribution Utility Participation in a Regional Transmission Organization**

Public Law 2025, chapter 646 requires transmission and distribution utilities to participate in a regional transmission organization. The law provides an exception for consumer-owned utilities and for utilities located in an area of the State in which the retail electricity market is administered by the independent system administrator for northern Maine.

**LD 2041 An Act to Increase the Debt Limit of the North Jay Water District**

Private and Special Law 2025, chapter 11 increases the debt limit of the North Jay Water District from \$900,000 to \$15,000,000.

Private and Special Law 2025, chapter 11 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 3, 2026.

**LD 2043 An Act to Raise the Ogunquit Sewer District Debt Limit**

Private and Special Law 2025, chapter 13 raises the debt limit of the Ogunquit Sewer District from \$12,000,000 to \$17,000,000.

**LD 2112 An Act to Authorize Municipalities to Form Community Choice Aggregation Programs to Procure Electricity**

Public Law 2025, chapter 665 authorizes a municipality or a group of municipalities to establish a community choice aggregation program, which permits the aggregation of the electric load of residential and small commercial electricity customers within a municipality or group of

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municipalities for the purpose of procuring electricity on behalf of those customers. Electricity customers are enrolled in the plan on an opt-out basis except for customers participating in net energy billing or a front of the meter distributed energy resource program, customers receiving generation service from a competitive electricity provider and customers receiving low-income assistance. Prior to implementing a community choice aggregation program, the program plan must be approved by the voters in the municipality or municipalities, the legislative body or governing board of each municipality and the Public Utilities Commission. The law establishes requirements for customer notifications and protections and directs the commission to adopt rules to implement the legislation, including rules governing community choice aggregation program approvals, opt-in and opt-out procedures and consumer safeguards. Public Law 2025, chapter 665 also provides that federally recognized Indian tribes in the State may establish community choice aggregation programs.

**LD 2140 Resolve, to Establish a Demand Response Program to Lower Electric Bills and Improve Grid Reliability**

Resolve 2025, chapter 162 requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to establish the demand response program to encourage electricity customers to reduce their consumption of electricity during periods of peak demand to help lower their electric bills and improve grid reliability. The program must be designed to provide outreach and education to renters, low-income electricity customers and customers having the greatest potential for peak-demand electricity usage reductions, and the trust is required to prioritize outreach and education for low-income electricity customers. The trust must assess the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of the program and, by February 28, 2028, submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters regarding its assessment.

**LD 2153 An Act to Transfer the Responsibilities of the Governor’s Energy Office to the Department of Energy Resources**

Public Law 2025, chapter 597 transfers the responsibilities of the Governor’s Energy Office to the Department of Energy Resources. The law also does the following.

1. It includes the Department of Energy Resources within the list of agencies that are subject to review in accordance with the State Government Evaluation Act.
2. It provides that any All Other balance remaining in the department’s General Fund account at the end of any fiscal year must be carried forward for use in the next fiscal year.
3. It requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services to consult with the department, instead of the Public Utilities Commission, in establishing rules related to energy efficiency standards for the construction of new or substantially renovated state-owned or state-leased buildings and buildings built with state funds.

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4. It includes the department within the definition of “agency” for the purposes of the Tribal-State Collaboration Act.
5. It requires the department, instead of the Public Utilities Commission, to adopt routine technical rules governing offshore wind energy procurements pursuant to the Maine Wind Energy Act.
6. It expands the definition of “primary storage facility” to specify that it includes a facility that receives petroleum products into the State by rail or truck.
7. It expands the department’s reporting requirement related to shortfalls in supply or anticipated deliveries of home heating oil or kerosene to include all petroleum products.
8. It clarifies the period of time in which the Public Utilities Commission must approve or reject a contract negotiated by the department for a competitive solicitation conducted by the department.
9. It clarifies the circumstances under which the department may share proposals and contract negotiation materials that are otherwise confidential.
10. It directs that certain activities of the Public Utilities Commission related to the carbon dioxide cap-and-trade program are to be undertaken by the Commissioner of Energy Resources.
11. It repeals a provision that directed the State Controller to transfer any unobligated balances related to the coastal zone management program remaining in the Bureau of Policy and Management program, Department of Marine Resources, Other Special Revenue Funds and federal funds to the Department of Energy Resources.
12. It requires the Department of Energy Resources to review the status of hydropower developments on the St. Croix River by January 1, 2028 and every 5 years thereafter and provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters regarding any significant developments or recommendations.

**LD 2203 An Act to Limit Rates Charged to Low-income Electricity Consumers**

Public Law 2025, chapter 640 prohibits a competitive electricity provider from providing to a customer receiving low-income assistance generation service at a rate that is greater than the standard-offer service rate that would otherwise be applicable to that customer. The law authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules to implement the law which may include, but are not limited to, rules governing the sharing of low-income assistance customer data by a transmission and distribution utility with a competitive electricity provider.

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**LD 2220 An Act to Establish the Maine Home Energy Navigator and Coaching Resource Hub**

Public Law 2025, chapter 703 establishes the Maine Home Energy Navigator and Coaching Resource Hub within the Department of Energy Resources. Through the resource hub, the department must make available standardized training curricula and program materials to support communities in implementing their own energy coaching programs. The law makes a one-time appropriation of \$100,000 in fiscal year 2026-27 to provide funding for the resource hub.

**LD 2234 An Act to Increase the Debt Limit of the Vinalhaven Water District**

Private and Special Law 2025, chapter 17 increases the debt limit of the Vinalhaven Water District from \$1,500,000 to \$4,000,000.

Private and Special Law 2025, chapter 17 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 3, 2026.

**132nd LEGISLATURE  
ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Summary of Committee Actions**

| I. BILLS AND PAPERS CONSIDERED  | <u>Number</u> | <u>% of Comm<br/>Activity</u>                | <u>% of All<br/>Bills/Papers</u>          |
|---|---------------|--|---|
| <b>A. Bills referred to Committee</b>   |               |  |   |
| <i>Bills referred and reported out</i>  | 11            | 47.8%  | 1.5%                                      |
| <u><i>Bills carried over from previous session</i></u>                                | <u>12</u> *   | <u>52.2%</u>                                 | <u>1.6%</u>                               |
| <b>Total Bills referred</b>   | <b>23</b>     | <b>100.0%</b>                                | <b>3.1%</b>                               |
| <b>B. Bills reported out by law or joint order and not referred back to committee</b> |               |  |   |
|   | <b>0</b>      | <b>0.0%</b>                                  | <b>0.0%</b>                               |
| <b>Total Bills considered by Committee</b>  | <b>23</b>     | <b>100.0%</b>                                | <b>3.1%</b>                               |
| <b>Orders and Resolutions referred to Committee</b>                                   |               |  |   |
| <i>Joint Study Orders referred and reported out</i>                                   | 0             | 0.0%   | 0.0%                                      |
| <i>Joint Resolutions/Orders referred and reported out</i>                             | 0             | 0.0%   | 0.0%                                      |
| <u><i>Joint Resolutions/Orders carried over from previous session</i></u>             | <u>0</u>      | <u>0.0%</u>                                  | <u>0.0%</u>                               |
| <b>Total Orders and Resolutions Referred</b>  | <b>0</b>      | <b>0.0%</b>                                  | <b>0.0%</b>                               |
| <b>II. COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>  |               |  |   |
|   | <u>Number</u> | <u>% of this<br/>Committee's<br/>Reports</u> | <u>% of All<br/>Committee<br/>Reports</u> |
| <b>A. Unanimous committee reports</b>   |               |  |   |
| <i>Ought to Pass</i>  | 2             | 8.7%   | 0.5%                                      |
| <i>Ought to Pass as Amended</i>   | 2             | 8.7%   | 0.5%                                      |
| <i>Leave to Withdraw</i>  | 1             | 4.3%   | 0.2%                                      |
| <u><i>Ought Not to Pass</i></u>   | <u>2</u>      | <u>8.7%</u>                                  | <u>0.5%</u>                               |
| <b>Total unanimous reports</b>  | <b>7</b>      | <b>30.4%</b>                                 | <b>1.6%</b>                               |
| <b>B. Divided committee reports</b>   |               |  |   |
| <i>Two-way reports</i>  | 13            | 56.5%  | 2.9%                                      |
| <i>Three-way reports</i>  | 3             | 13.0%  | 0.7%                                      |
| <u><i>Four-way reports</i></u>  | <u>0</u>      | <u>0.0%</u>                                  | <u>0.0%</u>                               |
| <b>Total divided reports</b>  | <b>16</b>     | <b>69.6%</b>                                 | <b>3.6%</b>                               |
| <b>Total committee reports</b>  | <b>23</b>     | <b>100.0%</b>                                | <b>5.2%</b>                               |
| <b>III. CONFIRMATION HEARINGS</b>   |               |  |   |
|   | <b>13</b>     | <b>N/A</b>                                   | <b>N/A</b>                                |
| <b>IV. FINAL DISPOSITION</b>  |               |  |   |
|   | <u>Number</u> | <u>% of Comm<br/>Bills/Papers</u>            | <u>% of All<br/>Bills/Papers</u>          |
| <b>A. Bills and Papers enacted or finally passed</b>                                  |               |  |   |
| <i>Joint Study Orders</i>   | 0             | 0.0%   | 0.0%                                      |
| <i>Public laws</i>  | 14            | 60.9%  | 1.9%                                      |
| <i>Private and Special Laws</i>   | 3             | 13.0%  | 0.4%                                      |
| <i>Resolves</i>   | 3             | 13.0%  | 0.4%                                      |
| <u><i>Constitutional Resolutions</i></u>  | <u>0</u>      | <u>0.0%</u>                                  | <u>0.0%</u>                               |
| <b>Total Enacted or Finally Passed</b>  | <b>20</b> **  | <b>87.0%</b>                                 | <b>2.7%</b>                               |
| <b>B. Resolves to authorize major substantive rules</b>                               |               |  |   |
| Rules authorized without legislative changes  | 0             | 0.0%   | 0.0%                                      |
| Rules authorized with legislative changes   | 0             | 0.0%   | 0.0%                                      |
| Rules carried over to next session  | 0             | 0.0%   | 0.0%                                      |
| <u>Rules not authorized by the Legislature</u>  | <u>0</u>      | <u>0.0%</u>                                  | <u>0.0%</u>                               |
| <b>Total number of rules reviewed</b>   | <b>0</b>      | <b>0.0%</b>                                  | <b>0.0%</b>                               |
| <b>C. Bills vetoed or held by Governor</b>  |               |  |   |
| <i>Vetoed over-ridden</i>   | 0             | 0.0%   | 0.0%                                      |
| <i>Vetoed sustained</i>   | 1             | 4.3%   | 0.1%                                      |
| <u><i>Held by the Governor</i></u>  | <u>0</u>      | <u>0.0%</u>                                  | <u>0.0%</u>                               |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>1</b>      | <b>4.3%</b>                                  | <b>0.1%</b>                               |

\* Total number of bills carried over from the previous session does not include LD 1223, which was carried over in the EUT Committee at the end of the 132nd First Special Session and then referred to the TAX Committee during the Second Regular Session.

\*\* Total number of enacted laws includes two bills that were enacted during the 132nd First Regular or First Special Sessions, held by the Governor and then became law at the beginning of the Second Regular Session.