

STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

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

December 2021

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Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

SUBJECT INDEX

Agency Matters - PUC/OPA/GEO/EMT

Enacted

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|---------|---|------------|
| LD 385 | An Act To Resolve Conflicts in and Make Other Changes to the Laws Governing the Efficiency Maine Trust | PUBLIC 209 |
| LD 487 | An Act Regarding Certain Employees of and To Provide for the Payment of Certain Filing Fees to the Public Advocate | PUBLIC 195 |
| LD 1666 | Resolve, To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Issue a Request for Information on a Statewide, Multiple-use Online Energy Data Platform | RESOLVE 63 |
| LD 1682 | An Act To Require Consideration of Climate Impacts by the Public Utilities Commission and To Incorporate Equity Considerations in Decision Making by State Agencies | PUBLIC 279 |

Biomass

Enacted

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| LD 597 | An Act To Establish the Thermal Energy Investment Program | PUBLIC 199 |
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Broadband/ConnectME Authority/Maine Connectivity Authority

Enacted

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| LD 1432 | An Act To Update the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund | PUBLIC 362 |
| LD 1484 | An Act To Establish the Maine Connectivity Authority | PUBLIC 364 |

Not Enacted

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| LD 83 | An Act To Clarify the Meaning of "Unserved Area" within the State's Broadband Service Laws | ONTP |
| LD 720 | An Act To Provide Funds to Aroostook County for Broadband Development | ONTP |

LD 807	An Act To Ensure Equitable Access to Mobile Hotspots for Maine Students	ONTP
LD 848	An Act To Increase High-speed Internet In Rural Maine	ONTP
LD 933	An Act To Facilitate the Expansion of Broadband to Unserved Areas of the State	ONTP
LD 1107	An Act To Create Needed Broadband Infrastructure in Rural Maine through the Establishment of a Satellite-based Broadband Grant Program	CARRIED OVER
LD 1190	An Act To Support the Provision of Universal, Affordable Broadband Internet	ONTP
LD 1555	An Act To Fund Broadband Internet Infrastructure for Marginalized Groups in the State	CARRIED OVER
LD 1707	An Act To Increase Transparency on Cable and Internet and Other Communications Services Price Increases	ONTP

Cable Television

Not Enacted

LD 920	An Act To Promote Oversight of and Competitive Parity among Video Service Providers	Veto Sustained
LD 1707	An Act To Increase Transparency on Cable and Internet and Other Communications Services Price Increases	ONTP

Dig Safe

Enacted

LD 500	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 895: Underground Facility Damage Prevention Requirements, a Major Substantive Rule of the Public Utilities Commission	RESOLVE 16
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Distributed Generation

Enacted

LD 936 An Act To Amend State Laws Relating to Net Energy Billing and the Procurement of Distributed Generation PUBLIC 390

Not Enacted

LD 427 An Act Regarding Solar Project Licensing ONTP

LD 583 An Act To Repeal the Changes Made by Public Law 2019, Chapter 478, "An Act To Promote Solar Energy Projects and Distributed Generation Resources in Maine" Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 634 An Act To Cap the Value of Contracts for Renewable Resources and Distributed Generation Resources CARRIED OVER

LD 1288 An Act Regarding Interconnectivity of Small Electric Distributed Generation Resources ONTP

LD 1435 An Act Regarding the Solicitation of Contracts for Distributed Resources That Use Renewable Energy Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 1596 An Act To Reduce the Nameplate Capacity of Distributed Generation Resource Projects to Qualify for Net Energy Billing and Decrease Tariff Rates for Customers Participating in Net Energy Billing Programs ONTP

E911

Enacted

LD 1306 Resolve, To Facilitate the Inclusion of Crisis Response Services in Emergency Services Offered through the E-9-1-1 System RESOLVE 29

Not Enacted

LD 1291 An Act To Reduce Fire Response Time by Eliminating Standardized Dispatch Protocols for Fire 9-1-1 Calls Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 1314 An Act To Require Dispatch Units To Employ a Person with a Social Work Background ONTP

Electricity

Enacted

LD 143	An Act Regarding the Arrearage Management Program	PUBLIC 101
LD 314	An Act To Continue the Green Power Electricity Offer	PUBLIC 40
LD 1053	An Act To Allow Microgrids That Are in the Public Interest	PUBLIC 236

Not Enacted

LD 170	An Act Pertaining to Transmission Lines Not Needed for Reliability or Local Generation	CARRIED OVER
LD 318	An Act To Provide More Options to Maine Electric Service Customers and Support Maine's Climate Goals	CARRIED OVER
LD 520	An Act To Continue the Green Power Offer for Electricity	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310
LD 682	An Act To Ensure the Viability of the Northern Maine Electric Transmission Grid	CARRIED OVER
LD 697	An Act To Enhance the Energy Security of Maine Residents	CARRIED OVER
LD 717	An Act To Allow the Efficiency Maine Trust To Own Electricity Facilities	ONTP
LD 744	An Act To Extend the Right-of-way Surrounding Power Lines for the Purpose of Tree Trimming	ONTP
LD 971	An Act To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Open an Inquiry Regarding Notification of the Sale of an Investor-owned Transmission and Distribution Utility	ONTP

LD 995	An Act To Improve Future Reorganizations of Transmission and Distribution Utilities	ONTP
LD 1079	Resolve, To Review the Effects of the Deregulation of Maine Utilities	CARRIED OVER
LD 1098	An Act To Support Rural Maine Residents through the Winter by Providing Rebates for Backup Power Generators	ONTP
LD 1116	Resolve, To Require Review of the Outcomes of Utility Restructuring and Electricity Generation Divestiture	ONTP
LD 1409	An Act Regarding High-impact Electric Transmission Lines	CARRIED OVER
LD 1511	An Act To Finance Distribution Investments at the Lowest Cost to Customers and To Encourage Utility Performance	CARRIED OVER
LD 1554	An Act To Provide Climate Change Transition Assistance for Maine's Energy-intensive Businesses	CARRIED OVER
LD 1587	An Act To Remove the Municipal Ordinance Exemption for the Development of Nonessential Transmission Lines	CARRIED OVER
LD 1634	An Act To Create the Maine Generation Authority	CARRIED OVER
LD 1708	An Act To Create the Pine Tree Power Company, a Nonprofit Utility, To Deliver Lower Rates, Reliability and Local Control for Maine Energy Independence	Veto Sustained

Electricity Rates/Consumer Protection

Enacted

LD 507	An Act To Improve Consumer Protections for Community Solar Projects	PUBLIC 107
LD 508	An Act To Improve Regulation of Door-to-door Marketing of Retail Energy Supply	PUBLIC 108

LD 1328 An Act To Protect Maine Electricity Customers from Threats of Disconnection in the Wintertime PUBLIC 347

LD 1431 An Act To Allow Certain Veterans' Organizations To Be Billed for Electricity Usage at the Same Rate as Residential Customers and To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Consider Rate Design Modifications PUBLIC 244

Not Enacted

LD 285 An Act To Protect Utility Customers from Investor Risk for Costs Incurred Due to a Disaster ONTP

LD 1191 Resolve, To Study the Feasibility of Time-of-use Rates ONTP

Energy Efficiency

Enacted

LD 340 An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs PUBLIC 142

LD 815 An Act To Support School Decarbonization PUBLIC 152

Not Enacted

LD 551 An Act To Accelerate Weatherization Efforts in the State CARRIED OVER

LD 667 An Act To Create Synergy between Maine Industry and Maine's Energy Goals in the Use of Certain Funds by the Efficiency Maine Trust Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 1264 An Act To Allow Owners and Renters To Use Future Electric Bill Payments To Finance Heat Pumps ONTP

LD 1554 An Act To Provide Climate Change Transition Assistance for Maine's Energy-intensive Businesses CARRIED OVER

Energy Planning

Not Enacted

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|---------|--|--------------|
| LD 82 | Resolve, To Provide for Participation of the State in the Planning and Negotiations for the Atlantic Loop Energy Project | CARRIED OVER |
| LD 1556 | Resolve, To Create the Commission To Study and Recommend a Financing Model To Increase Capital Investment in Renewable Energy, Clean Energy Technology, Energy Efficiency Projects and Jobs in Maine | ONTP |

Energy Policy

Enacted

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|--------|--|------------|
| LD 347 | An Act To Facilitate Maine's Climate Goals by Encouraging Use of Electric Vehicles | PUBLIC 402 |
| LD 528 | An Act To Advance Energy Storage in Maine | PUBLIC 298 |

Not Enacted

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| LD 918 | An Act To Transition from a Fossil Fuel-based to an Electrical Energy Economy | ONTP |
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Miscellaneous

Enacted

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| LD 1008 | An Act To Require Joint Use Entities To Establish Permanent Liaisons with All County Emergency Management Agencies | PUBLIC 154 |
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Not Enacted

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|---------|--|---------------------|
| LD 337 | An Act Regarding Energy, Utilities and Technology | CARRIED OVER |
| LD 754 | An Act To Promote Municipal Climate Action | ONTP |
| LD 840 | An Act To Prevent Power Line Electrocutions | CARRIED OVER |
| LD 1219 | Resolve, To Facilitate the Modernization and Streamlining of the Utility Pole Attachment Process | Died Between Houses |

LD 1579 An Act To Transition State and Local Motor Vehicle Fleets to 100 Percent Zero-emission Vehicles CARRIED OVER

Natural Gas

Not Enacted

LD 989 An Act Regarding the Procurement of Renewable Natural Gas by Gas Utilities ONTP

Net Energy Billing

Enacted

LD 936 An Act To Amend State Laws Relating to Net Energy Billing and the Procurement of Distributed Generation PUBLIC 390

LD 1025 An Act To Support Arrearage Management Programs through Unused Kilowatt-hour Credits Derived from Net Energy Billing Arrangements PUBLIC 370

Not Enacted

LD 249 An Act To Eliminate the Current Net Energy Billing Policy in Maine Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 709 Resolve, To Provide a Brief Moratorium on Certain New Net Energy Billing Arrangements and To Examine the Costs and Benefits of Net Energy Billing ONTP

LD 1332 An Act Regarding Net Energy Billing Limits ONTP

LD 1596 An Act To Reduce the Nameplate Capacity of Distributed Generation Resource Projects to Qualify for Net Energy Billing and Decrease Tariff Rates for Customers Participating in Net Energy Billing Programs ONTP

Renewable Resources

Enacted

LD 597 An Act To Establish the Thermal Energy Investment Program PUBLIC 199

LD 1659 An Act To Create the Maine Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator PUBLIC 358

LD 1710 An Act To Require Prompt and Effective Use of the Renewable Energy Resources of Northern Maine PUBLIC 380

Not Enacted

LD 9 An Act To Promote Renewable Energy by Authorizing a Power-to-fuel Pilot Program ONTP

LD 634 An Act To Cap the Value of Contracts for Renewable Resources and Distributed Generation Resources CARRIED OVER

LD 900 An Act To Facilitate the Recycling of Clean Energy Equipment Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 1202 An Act To Establish a Wood-fired Combined Heat and Power Program CARRIED OVER

LD 1350 An Act To Expand Maine's Clean Energy Economy CARRIED OVER

LD 1435 An Act Regarding the Solicitation of Contracts for Distributed Resources That Use Renewable Energy Majority (ONTP) Report

Solar Energy

Enacted

LD 1100 An Act To Support the Continued Access to Solar Energy and Battery Storage by Maine Homes and Businesses PUBLIC 264

Not Enacted

LD 426 An Act Relating to Solar Energy Installation ONTP

LD 583 An Act To Repeal the Changes Made by Public Law 2019, Chapter 478, "An Act To Promote Solar Energy Projects and Distributed Generation Resources in Maine" Majority (ONTP) Report

Telecommunications

Enacted

LD 511 An Act Regarding Services Designed To Reduce the Number of So-called Robocalls and Automatically Dialed Telephone Calls PUBLIC 109

Not Enacted

LD 1130 An Act To Establish a Public Registry for Automated Telephone Calls and So-called Robocalls ONTP

LD 1707 An Act To Increase Transparency on Cable and Internet and Other Communications Services Price Increases ONTP

Utilities - General

Enacted

LD 251 An Act Regarding Public Utility Assessments, Fees and Penalties PUBLIC 318

Not Enacted

LD 695 An Act To Allow Municipal Utility Expansion under Certain Conditions ONTP

LD 1026 An Act To Update the Regulation of Public Utility Monopolies CARRIED OVER

Water/Sewer/Sanitary - General

Enacted

LD 256 An Act To Adjust Sewer and Wastewater Lien Fees PUBLIC 70

Not Enacted

LD 245 An Act Regarding Rural Water Districts CARRIED OVER

LD 757 An Act Concerning Large-scale Water Extraction Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310

Water/Sewer/Sanitary Charters

Enacted

LD 1542 An Act To Repeal and Replace the Kittery Water District Charter P & S 2

LD 1625 An Act To Increase the Number of Lincolnville Sewer District Trustees from 3 to 5 P & S 9

LD 1731 An Act To Create the Belgrade Water District

P & S 11

Wind Energy

Enacted

LD 336 An Act To Encourage Research To Support the Maine Offshore Wind Industry PUBLIC 327

LD 1619 An Act To Establish a Moratorium on Offshore Wind Power Projects in Maine's Territorial Waters PUBLIC 407

Not Enacted

LD 101 An Act To Prohibit Offshore Wind Energy Development

ONTP

DIGEST OF BILLS AND SUMMARIES OF ENACTED LAWS
130th Legislature, First Regular and First Special Sessions - 2021

DIGEST OF BILLS

PL = Public Law; P&SL = Private and Special Law;
 RESLV = Resolve; CON RES = Constitutional Resolution;
 IB = Initiated Bill

Bills Referred to

Energy, Utilities and Technology (EUT)

Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action		Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
							Law	Ch	
EUT	9	An Act To Promote Renewable Energy by Authorizing a Power-to-fuel Pilot Program	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
EUT	82	Resolve, To Provide for Participation of the State in the Planning and Negotiations for the Atlantic Loop Energy Project	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
EUT	83	An Act To Clarify the Meaning of "Unserved Area" within the State's Broadband Service Laws	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
EUT	101	An Act To Prohibit Offshore Wind Energy Development	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
EUT	143	An Act Regarding the Arrearage Management Program	Reported Out	OTP-AM		<u>Enacted</u>	PL	101	S1
EUT	170	An Act Pertaining to Transmission Lines Not Needed for Reliability or Local Generation	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
EUT	245	An Act Regarding Rural Water Districts	Reported Out	OTP-AM	Carried On Approps Table				S1
EUT	249	An Act To Eliminate the Current Net Energy Billing Policy in Maine	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
EUT	251	An Act Regarding Public Utility Assessments, Fees and Penalties	Reported Out	OTP-AM		<u>Enacted</u>	PL	318	S1
EUT	256	An Act To Adjust Sewer and Wastewater Lien Fees	Reported Out	OTP-AM		<u>Enacted</u>	PL	70	S1
EUT	285	An Act To Protect Utility Customers from Investor Risk for Costs Incurred Due to a Disaster	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
EUT	314	An Act To Continue the Green Power Electricity Offer	Reported Out	OTP/ ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	PL	40	R1

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Bills Referred to

Energy, Utilities and Technology (EUT)

Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
						Law	Ch	
EUT	318	An Act To Provide More Options to Maine Electric Service Customers and Support Maine's Climate Goals	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm			\$1
EUT	336	An Act To Encourage Research To Support the Maine Offshore Wind Industry	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL 327	\$1
EUT	337	An Act Regarding Energy, Utilities and Technology	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm			\$1
EUT	340	An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ OTP-AM		Enacted	PL 142	\$1
EUT	347	An Act To Facilitate Maine's Climate Goals by Encouraging Use of Electric Vehicles	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL 402	\$1
EUT	385	An Act To Resolve Conflicts in and Make Other Changes to the Laws Governing the Efficiency Maine Trust	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL 209	\$1
EUT	426	An Act Relating to Solar Energy Installation	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310		\$1
EUT	427	An Act Regarding Solar Project Licensing	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310		\$1
EUT	487	An Act Regarding Certain Employees of and To Provide for the Payment of Certain Filing Fees to the Public Advocate	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL 195	\$1
EUT	500	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 895: Underground Facility Damage Prevention Requirements, a Major Substantive Rule of the Public Utilities Commission	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV 16	\$1
EUT	507	An Act To Improve Consumer Protections for Community Solar Projects	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL 107	\$1
EUT	508	An Act To Improve Regulation of Door-to-door Marketing of Retail Energy Supply	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL 108	\$1
EUT	511	An Act Regarding Services Designed To Reduce the Number of So-called Robocalls and Automatically Dialed Telephone Calls	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL 109	\$1
EUT	520	An Act To Continue the Green Power Offer for Electricity	Reported Out	LTW		Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310		R1

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Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess	
						Law	Ch		
EUT	528	An Act To Advance Energy Storage in Maine	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	298	S1
EUT	551	An Act To Accelerate Weatherization Efforts in the State	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
EUT	583	An Act To Repeal the Changes Made by Public Law 2019, Chapter 478, "An Act To Promote Solar Energy Projects and Distributed Generation Resources in Maine"	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
EUT	597	An Act To Establish the Thermal Energy Investment Program	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	199	S1
EUT	634	An Act To Cap the Value of Contracts for Renewable Resources and Distributed Generation Resources	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
EUT	667	An Act To Create Synergy between Maine Industry and Maine's Energy Goals in the Use of Certain Funds by the Efficiency Maine Trust	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
EUT	682	An Act To Ensure the Viability of the Northern Maine Electric Transmission Grid	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
EUT	695	An Act To Allow Municipal Utility Expansion under Certain Conditions	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
EUT	697	An Act To Enhance the Energy Security of Maine Residents	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
EUT	709	Resolve, To Provide a Brief Moratorium on Certain New Net Energy Billing Arrangements and To Examine the Costs and Benefits of Net Energy Billing	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
EUT	717	An Act To Allow the Efficiency Maine Trust To Own Electricity Facilities	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
EUT	720	An Act To Provide Funds to Aroostook County for Broadband Development	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
EUT	744	An Act To Extend the Right-of-way Surrounding Power Lines for the Purpose of Tree Trimming	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1

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Energy, Utilities and Technology (EUT)

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Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action		Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
							Law	Ch	
EUT	754	An Act To Promote Municipal Climate Action	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	757	An Act Concerning Large-scale Water Extraction	Reported Out	LTW		Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	807	An Act To Ensure Equitable Access to Mobile Hotspots for Maine Students	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	815	An Act To Support School Decarbonization	Reported Out	OTP/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	152	\$1
EUT	840	An Act To Prevent Power Line Electrocutions	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				\$1
EUT	848	An Act To Increase High-speed Internet In Rural Maine	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	900	An Act To Facilitate the Recycling of Clean Energy Equipment	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			\$1
EUT	918	An Act To Transition from a Fossil Fuel-based to an Electrical Energy Economy	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	920	An Act To Promote Oversight of and Competitive Parity among Video Service Providers	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Veto Sustained			\$1
EUT	933	An Act To Facilitate the Expansion of Broadband to Unserved Areas of the State	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	936	An Act To Amend State Laws Relating to Net Energy Billing and the Procurement of Distributed Generation	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	390	\$1
EUT	971	An Act To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Open an Inquiry Regarding Notification of the Sale of an Investor-owned Transmission and Distribution Utility	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	989	An Act Regarding the Procurement of Renewable Natural Gas by Gas Utilities	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1

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Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
						Law	Ch	
EUT	995	An Act To Improve Future Reorganizations of Transmission and Distribution Utilities	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1008	An Act To Require Joint Use Entities To Establish Permanent Liaisons with All County Emergency Management Agencies	Reported Out OTP-AM/OTP		<u>Enacted</u>	PL	154	\$1
EUT	1025	An Act To Support Arrearage Management Programs through Unused Kilowatt-hour Credits Derived from Net Energy Billing Arrangements	Reported Out OTP-AM/ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	PL	370	\$1
EUT	1026	An Act To Update the Regulation of Public Utility Monopolies	Carry Over Approved	Carried Over In Comm				\$1
EUT	1053	An Act To Allow Microgrids That Are in the Public Interest	Reported Out OTP-AM/ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	PL	236	\$1
EUT	1079	Resolve, To Review the Effects of the Deregulation of Maine Utilities	Carry Over Approved	Carried Over In Comm				\$1
EUT	1098	An Act To Support Rural Maine Residents through the Winter by Providing Rebates for Backup Power Generators	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1100	An Act To Support the Continued Access to Solar Energy and Battery Storage by Maine Homes and Businesses	Reported Out OTP-AM/ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	PL	264	\$1
EUT	1107	An Act To Create Needed Broadband Infrastructure in Rural Maine through the Establishment of a Satellite-based Broadband Grant Program	Carry Over Approved	Carried Over In Comm				\$1
EUT	1116	Resolve, To Require Review of the Outcomes of Utility Restructuring and Electricity Generation Divestiture	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1130	An Act To Establish a Public Registry for Automated Telephone Calls and So-called Robocalls	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1190	An Act To Support the Provision of Universal, Affordable Broadband Internet	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1191	Resolve, To Study the Feasibility of Time-of-use Rates	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1202	An Act To Establish a Wood-fired Combined Heat and Power Program	Carry Over Approved	Carried Over In Comm				\$1

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Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess	
						Law	Ch		
EUT	1219	Resolve, To Facilitate the Modernization and Streamlining of the Utility Pole Attachment Process	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Died Between Houses			\$1
EUT	1264	An Act To Allow Owners and Renters To Use Future Electric Bill Payments To Finance Heat Pumps	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1288	An Act Regarding Interconnectivity of Small Electric Distributed Generation Resources	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1291	An Act To Reduce Fire Response Time by Eliminating Standardized Dispatch Protocols for Fire 9-1-1 Calls	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			\$1
EUT	1306	Resolve, To Facilitate the Inclusion of Crisis Response Services in Emergency Services Offered through the E-9-1-1 System	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Finally Passed	RESLV	29	\$1
EUT	1314	An Act To Require Dispatch Units To Employ a Person with a Social Work Background	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1328	An Act To Protect Maine Electricity Customers from Threats of Disconnection in the Wintertime	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	347	\$1
EUT	1332	An Act Regarding Net Energy Billing Limits	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1350	An Act To Expand Maine's Clean Energy Economy	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				\$1
EUT	1409	An Act Regarding High-impact Electric Transmission Lines	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				\$1
EUT	1431	An Act To Allow Certain Veterans' Organizations To Be Billed for Electricity Usage at the Same Rate as Residential Customers and To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Consider Rate Design Modifications	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ONTP		Enacted	PL	244	\$1
EUT	1432	An Act To Update the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ONTP		Enacted	PL	362	\$1
EUT	1435	An Act Regarding the Solicitation of Contracts for Distributed Resources That Use Renewable Energy	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			\$1
EUT	1484	An Act To Establish the Maine Connectivity Authority	Reported Out	OTP-AM/OTP-AM		Emergency Enacted	PL	364	\$1

PL = Public Law; P&SL = Private and Special Law;
 RESLV = Resolve; CON RES = Constitutional Resolution;
 IB = Initiated Bill

Bills Referred to

Energy, Utilities and Technology (EUT)

Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess	
						Law	Ch		
EUT	1511	An Act To Finance Distribution Investments at the Lowest Cost to Customers and To Encourage Utility Performance	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm			\$1	
EUT	1542	An Act To Repeal and Replace the Kittery Water District Charter	Reported Out	OTP-AM		<u>Emergency Enacted</u>	<u>P&SL</u>	<u>2</u>	\$1
EUT	1554	An Act To Provide Climate Change Transition Assistance for Maine's Energy-intensive Businesses	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ OTP-AM	Carried On Approps Table				\$1
EUT	1555	An Act To Fund Broadband Internet Infrastructure for Marginalized Groups in the State	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				\$1
EUT	1556	Resolve, To Create the Commission To Study and Recommend a Financing Model To Increase Capital Investment in Renewable Energy, Clean Energy Technology, Energy Efficiency Projects and Jobs in Maine	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1579	An Act To Transition State and Local Motor Vehicle Fleets to 100 Percent Zero-emission Vehicles	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				\$1
EUT	1587	An Act To Remove the Municipal Ordinance Exemption for the Development of Nonessential Transmission Lines	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				\$1
EUT	1596	An Act To Reduce the Nameplate Capacity of Distributed Generation Resource Projects to Qualify for Net Energy Billing and Decrease Tariff Rates for Customers Participating in Net Energy Billing Programs	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
EUT	1619	An Act To Establish a Moratorium on Offshore Wind Power Projects in Maine's Territorial Waters	Reported Out	OTP-AM		<u>Emergency Enacted</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>407</u>	\$1
EUT	1625	An Act To Increase the Number of Lincolnville Sewer District Trustees from 3 to 5	Reported Out	OTP-AM		<u>Enacted</u>	<u>P&SL</u>	<u>9</u>	\$1
EUT	1634	An Act To Create the Maine Generation Authority	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				\$1
EUT	1659	An Act To Create the Maine Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>358</u>	\$1
EUT	1666	Resolve, To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Issue a Request for Information on a Statewide, Multiple-use Online Energy Data Platform	Reported Out	OTP-AM		<u>Finally Passed</u>	<u>RESLV</u>	<u>63</u>	\$1
EUT	1682	An Act To Require Consideration of Climate Impacts by the Public Utilities Commission and To Incorporate Equity Considerations in Decision Making by State Agencies	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>279</u>	\$1

Bills Referred to

Energy, Utilities and Technology (EUT)

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Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess	
						Law	Ch		
EUT	1707	An Act To Increase Transparency on Cable and Internet and Other Communications Services Price Increases	Reported Out	ONTP				S1	
EUT	1708	An Act To Create the Pine Tree Power Company, a Nonprofit Utility, To Deliver Lower Rates, Reliability and Local Control for Maine Energy Independence	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Veto Sustained		S1	
EUT	1710	An Act To Require Prompt and Effective Use of the Renewable Energy Resources of Northern Maine	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	PL	380	S1
EUT	1731	An Act To Create the Belgrade Water District	Reported Out	OTP-AM		<u>Emergency Enacted</u>	P&SL	11	S1

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 143 An Act Regarding the Arrearage Management Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 101 extends the repeal date for the arrearage management program from September 30, 2022 to September 30, 2024. It includes a requirement that if an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility produces any materials, either written or electronic, regarding the arrearage management program offered by the utility, those materials must state in plainly worded language and in a type size that is no less than 12 points that Maine law requires the utility to offer an arrearage management program to its customers and that certain costs associated with the program are not paid for by the utility and are recoverable in rates. It requires the Public Utilities Commission as part of its Docket No. 2021-00061 to consider proven, global best practices to assist low-income ratepayers, including, but not limited to, the use of lower tier rates for customers based on income. It requires the commission to provide to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology any information or decisions made in relation to Docket No. 2021-00061 by January 15, 2022. Lastly, it allows the committee to report out a bill based on the information provided by the commission.

LD 251 An Act Regarding Public Utility Assessments, Fees and Penalties

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021 chapter 318 does the following.

1. It requires the Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocate, respectively, in calculating assessments charged to public utilities to apportion the assessment within each category of public utility between investor-owned utilities and consumer-owned utilities based on an accounting of the portion of the commission's resources and the Public Advocate's resources, respectively, devoted to matters related to investor-owned utilities and the portion devoted to matters related to consumer-owned utilities. This provision has an effective date of August 1, 2022.
2. It requires the portion of the assessment applicable to investor-owned utilities and consumer-owned utilities within each category as determined by the Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocate, respectively, to be allocated to each utility based on a three-year rolling average of revenue reported by the utility. This provision has an effective date of August 1, 2022.
3. It requires, by January 15, 2022, the Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocate to submit to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters initial calculations related to the assessments described under items 1 and 2, above, and allows the committee to report out a bill based on the information to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

4. It requires the commission, in its annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters, to report on any filing fees or penalties collected from public utilities in the previous year that have not been adjusted in the previous five years and to provide information regarding the dollar value of those filing fees or penalties identified adjusted for inflation based on the Consumer Price Index for each fee and penalty since the last adjustment. It allows the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters to report out a bill to adjust those identified fees or penalties for inflation.
5. It requires the commission and the Public Advocate to report annually, beginning in 2022, on the portion of resources devoted to matters related to investor-owned utilities and the portion of resources devoted to matters related to consumer-owned utilities and on commission and Public Advocate expenses, respectively, per dollar of intrastate gross operating revenue for investor-owned utilities and consumer-owned utilities.
6. It amends the law governing filing fees for reorganizations of utilities to authorize the commission to order a filing fee of up to 5/100 of one percent of the transaction value as determined by the commission and to require the commission to order payment of a filing fee equal to 5/100 of one percent of the transaction value if a reorganization would result in the transfer of ownership and control of a public utility or the parent company of a public utility. Under current law the commission may charge a filing fee of up to \$50,000 to an applicant seeking approval for a reorganization.
7. It adjusts several filing fees and penalties for inflation.

LD 256 An Act To Adjust Sewer and Wastewater Lien Fees

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 70 increases from \$13 to \$25 the flat fee paid by a delinquent sewer or wastewater ratepayer and provides that the \$25 fee be adjusted annually by the treasurer of the district for inflation based on the Consumer Price Index.

LD 314 An Act To Continue the Green Power Electricity Offer

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 40 reestablishes the green power provisions, which require the Public Utilities Commission to arrange for a green power offer that is composed of green power supply. The original green power offer provisions were repealed on April 1, 2021. The new green power provisions do not include a repeal provision.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 336 An Act To Encourage Research To Support the Maine Offshore Wind Industry

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 327 directs the Public Utilities Commission to require the negotiation of a long-term contract for the design, permitting, construction and operation of the State's proposed floating offshore wind research array between the developer of the research array and an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility. It specifies that the commission must require the execution of a project labor agreement containing certain terms and conditions by any entity with which the commission directs an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to enter into a long-term contract for capacity, energy or renewable energy credits.

This law includes a legislative finding that a long-term contract between an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility and New England Aqua Ventus, LLC for capacity, energy and renewable energy credits generated from a floating offshore wind research array is in the public interest and is in furtherance of existing State laws and policies. It requires the commission, if it would be in the public interest and in furtherance of existing State laws and policies, to order the negotiation of a long-term contract between a utility and New England Aqua Ventus, LLC within nine months of the effective date of the law. It places certain terms and conditions on any negotiations or long-term contracts the commission may order, including: the invitation of the Office of the Public Advocate and the Governor's Energy Office to participate in the negotiations; the retention by the commission, at the developer's expense, of expert consultants; the use of a project labor agreement with requirements; and specific requirements for any pricing structure adopted within a power purchase agreement.

The law requires the commission, in consultation with the Public Advocate and Governor's Energy Office, to submit a report, by February 1, 2022, to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology regarding technology, location and other options for the creation of transmission infrastructure related to the deployment of offshore wind energy generation in the Gulf of Maine. It allows the committee to report out a bill based on the report.

LD 340 An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 142 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.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 347 An Act To Facilitate Maine’s Climate Goals by Encouraging Use of Electric Vehicles

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 402 does the following.

1. It amends the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Fund established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 10125 to provide that expenditures from the fund must be consistent with the allowable uses of and any criteria or limitations placed upon the expenditure of those funds by the sources of those funds.
2. It amends eligibility criteria for electric vehicle rebates under the Electric Vehicle Fund established in Title 35-A, section 10126.
3. It directs the Public Utilities Commission to open an inquiry to review alternative rate structures to support electric vehicle charging stations for nonresidential applications, including, but not limited to, for light duty vehicles, medium duty vehicles, heavy duty vehicles and transit and other fleet vehicles. As part of that inquiry, the commission must require each transmission and distribution utility in the State to develop and submit by November 1, 2021 one or more proposed rate schedules to support the installation and sustainable operation of existing and new electric vehicle charging stations. It requires that, no earlier than April 1, 2022, the commission approve, approve with modifications or reject a rate schedule proposed by a transmission and distribution utility. On or before February 15, 2022, the commission is required to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology regarding its findings from that inquiry and any recommendations, including any proposed legislation, regarding the establishment of alternative rate structures to support electric vehicle charging stations for nonresidential applications. After reviewing the report, the joint standing committee may report out legislation related to the commission's report to the 130th Legislature.

LD 385 An Act To Resolve Conflicts in and Make Other Changes to the Laws Governing the Efficiency Maine Trust

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 209 reconciles a number of conflicts in the Efficiency Maine Trust Act created through the enactment of different legislation during the 129th Legislature.

It provides as goals for the Efficiency Maine Trust:

1. The weatherization by 2030 of 35,000 homes and businesses, with at least 10,000 of such projects completed in low-income households through the combined efforts of the trust and the Maine State Housing Authority;

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

2. The promotion of the purchase of high-efficiency heat pump systems to achieve by 2030 the goal of at least 115,000 households in the State wholly heated by heat pumps and an additional 130,000 households in the State partially heated by heat pumps; and
3. The promotion of the purchase of battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid vehicles to achieve by 2030 the goal of at least 120,000 such vehicles registered in the State.

It broadens the existing authorization for the trust to establish training programs for installers of solar energy equipment to include energy equipment generally. It also authorizes the trust to offer training programs to code enforcement officers, inspectors or other professionals involved in designing, marketing, regulating or educating about energy equipment and to offer training programs to contractors or other professionals involved in designing, installing or constructing energy efficiency, weatherization or other building performance measures for homes and businesses.

LD 487 An Act Regarding Certain Employees of and To Provide for the Payment of Certain Filing Fees to the Public Advocate

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 195 changes the title of the Business Services Manager position to Senior Assistant to the Public Advocate to clarify that a person in the position may perform duties aside from business-related duties. It requires the payment of a filing fee to the Office of the Public Advocate by an applicant for approval of a reorganization by the Public Utilities Commission, not to exceed 3/100 of 1% of the total transaction value of the reorganization, to be expended by the Public Advocate in representing the interests of consumers in the reorganization proceeding or conducting public outreach to inform consumers about the proceeding. It requires that, in the case of a petition for approval by the Public Utilities Commission of the erection of a transmission line capable of operating at 69 kilovolts or more, the person filing the petition must pay to the Office of the Public Advocate a filing fee equal to 3/100 of 1% of the estimated cost to erect that transmission line, to be expended by the Public Advocate in representing the interests of consumers in the petition proceeding or conducting public outreach to inform consumers about the proceeding.

LD 500 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 895: Underground Facility Damage Prevention Requirements, a Major Substantive Rule of the Public Utilities Commission

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 16 authorizes final adoption by the Public Utilities Commission of portions of Chapter 895: Underground Facility Damage Prevention Requirements, a provisionally adopted

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

major substantive rule of the commission, only if the rule is amended prior to final adoption to clarify that a damage prevention incident may be reported by an excavator to the Public Utilities Commission via e-mail.

Resolve 2021, chapter 16 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective May 25, 2021.

LD 507 An Act To Improve Consumer Protections for Community Solar Projects

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 107 clarifies the enforcement of provisions governing project sponsors in order to protect a customer who participates in or is solicited to participate in community solar projects through a net energy billing arrangement based upon a shared financial interest in a distributed generation resource under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3209-A from fraud and other unfair and deceptive business practices. It specifies the provisions that are the responsibility of the Public Utilities Commission to enforce and requires that the commission report for any suspected violations of other specified provisions to the Attorney General. It also specifies that any violation of the provisions governing project sponsors is a violation of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act. It allows the commission to adopt consumer protection provisions in its net energy billing rules as routine technical rules on a one-time basis. Lastly, it provides allocations for additional positions at the commission in order to implement these protections.

LD 508 An Act To Improve Regulation of Door-to-door Marketing of Retail Energy Supply

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 108 establishes additional requirements for and places certain limitations and penalties on competitive electricity providers that use third-party sales agents. It defines “3rd-party sales agent” and “door-to-door sales.” It requires third-party sales agents to register with the Public Utilities Commission and to comply with federal and state laws and rules regarding door-to-door sales. The law prohibits a third-party sales agent, on behalf of a competitive electricity provider, from entering into an agreement to provide service to a residential consumer when that service is solicited using door-to-door sales practices without providing the residential consumer a standard disclosure form that meets requirements prescribed by the commission by rule. The bill prohibits a competitive electricity provider or a third-party sales agent from representing itself as an alternative to or affiliated in any way with a transmission and distribution utility. It allows the consumer to rescind the consumer's selection of a competitive electricity provider orally or in writing within five days of receipt of the first bill or invoice, but requires the consumer to pay that first bill or invoice in full.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 511 An Act Regarding Services Designed to Reduce the Number of So-called Robocalls and Automatically Dialed Telephone Calls

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 109 clarifies that a telephone utility must inform each subscriber as to the nature and cost of any service offered that is designed to reduce the number of calls received by a subscriber that are made using an automated telephone calling device or an artificial or prerecorded voice and describe how the subscriber may elect to enroll in or take advantage of the service.

LD 528 An Act To Advance Energy Storage in Maine

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 298:

1. Establishes a state goal for energy storage system development of 300 megawatts of installed capacity by December 31, 2025, and 400 megawatts of installed capacity by December 31, 2030, and requires the Governor's Energy Office, every two years beginning in 2031, to set the state goal for energy storage system development and report that goal to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utility matters;
2. Amends the laws governing the Efficiency Maine Trust to ensure that the trust's authority explicitly and affirmatively includes energy storage by adding direct references to energy storage in relevant sections of statute; directs the trust to explore and evaluate options to expand existing opportunities and develop new opportunities to support energy storage measures that cost-effectively reduce or shift demand or balance; directs the trust to explore alternative methods to demonstrate cost-effectiveness for energy storage projects or programs; requires, beginning January 1, 2022, the trust to conduct a pilot program to provide energy storage systems to critical care facilities and limits the pilot program to 15 megawatts of energy storage capacity; and requires the trust, in its annual report, to specify its activities undertaken under the energy storage pilot program;
3. Directs the Public Utilities Commission to investigate opportunities to modernize transmission and distribution utility rate designs through time-of-use or other time-differentiated rates; develop and implement a pilot program to test and evaluate time-of-use rates in conjunction with energy storage; and develop and implement a schedule for regular review and update of rate designs and ensure that the review includes consideration of time-differentiated rates;
4. Requires the Public Utilities Commission to evaluate the feasibility and possible benefits of a power-to-fuel pilot program that would result in the development of power-to-fuel projects utilizing renewable energy, to estimate ratepayer impacts of a pilot program, provide a comparison of how those ratepayer impacts compare to other types of energy storage

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

130TH FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS – 2021

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

technologies and to review what measures other states have taken to facilitate the development of energy storage and whether those measure were successful at promoting energy storage, minimizing ratepayer impacts and promoting a diversification of energy storage technologies. It requires the commission submit a report on its evaluation to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by February 1, 2022 and allows the committee to report out a bill based on the report; and

5. Requires the Governor's Energy Office to conduct an energy storage market assessment study and submit a report on that study by March 1, 2022.

LD 597 An Act To Establish the Thermal Energy Investment Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 199 establishes the Thermal Energy Investment Fund and creates the Thermal Energy Investment Program within the Efficiency Maine Trust. The law specifies that funds collected from alternative compliance payments made by competitive electricity providers to satisfy the portfolio requirements for thermal renewable energy credits must be used to fund the Thermal 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 thermal energy-derived projects. It requires that the trust consult with the Finance Authority of Maine, when appropriate, in the development of any Thermal Energy Investment Program incentives and the distribution of money from the Thermal Energy Investment Fund. It prohibits the use of funds for incentives or loans for the refurbishment or maintenance of existing facilities.

LD 815 An Act To Support School Decarbonization

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 152 changes the school energy savings program, which was developed and administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust, to a school decarbonization program. It requires the trust to provide technical and financial support to help kindergarten to grade 12 schools become carbon neutral. It also repeals the school solar energy program administered by the trust.

LD 936 An Act To Amend State Laws Relating to Net Energy Billing and the Procurements of Distributed Generation

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 390 specifies the requirements that must be met for a distributed generation resource with a nameplate capacity of at least two megawatts and no more than five megawatts to be able to participate in net energy billing under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

35-A, sections 3209-A and 3209-B. It also specifies a goal for the development of commercially operational distributed generation resources of 750 total megawatts. It prohibits the Public Utilities Commission from procuring distributed generation under Title 35-A, chapter 34-C. It provides funding for an additional position at the commission.

The law also requires the Governor's Energy Office in coordination with the commission to convene a stakeholder group to consider various distributed generation project programs to be implemented between 2024 and 2028 and the need for improved grid planning. It defines, for the purposes of this stakeholder process, "distributed generation project" as a renewable energy project with a nameplate capacity of no more than five megawatts that has identified residential, commercial and institutional customers, including but not limited to, net energy billing arrangement projects. It specifies those stakeholders that must be included, requires both an interim report and final report and specifies what must be examined for each report. It allows the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology to report out a bill during the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature based on the interim report and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utility matters to report out a bill to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature based on the final report.

LD 1008 An Act To Require Joint Use Entities To Establish Permanent Liaisons with All County Emergency Management Agencies

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 154 requires a joint use entity, which includes a public utility, voice service provider, dark fiber provider, wholesale or retail competitive local exchange carrier, cable television system, unlit fiber provider, telecommunications service provider or information service provider, to designate a permanent liaison with each county emergency management agency in the State in counties in which the joint use entity has facilities in order to assist in the coordination of efforts during a disaster or civil emergency.

It also provides that a joint use entity is responsible for ensuring that such a designated permanent liaison responds immediately to any contact or request for assistance during a disaster or civil emergency from the county emergency management agency to which the liaison is designated. It further provides that a county emergency management agency that receives a communication from a joint use entity designating a permanent liaison must communicate to that joint use entity the contact information for the employee or employees of the county emergency management agency responsible for coordinating the actions of the county emergency management agency during a disaster or civil emergency.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 1025 An Act To Support Arrearage Management Programs through Unused Kilowatt-hour Credits Derived from Net Energy Billing Arrangements

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 370 requires the Public Utilities Commission to adopt routine technical rules requiring that, no earlier than April 1, 2022, each transmission and distribution utility with a net energy billing arrangement account for and, on or before January 1st of each year, apply all unused kilowatt-hour credits that were accumulated and expired in the prior calendar year for the benefit of participants in the utility's arrearage management program implemented pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3214, subsection 2-A.

LD 1053 An Act To Allow Microgrids That Are in the Public Interest

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 236 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 requires that any new distributed energy sources constructed after the effective date of this law for a new microgrid must be a renewable capacity resource or a renewable resource. 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 grid and consumer protections for new microgrid consumers. It specifies that a new microgrid does not become a public utility solely as a result of its furnishing electrical service to participating consumers. It also directs the commission to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utility matters by January 7, 2023.

The law requires that, beginning in 2025, the commission must submit information regarding microgrids in its annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public utilities.

LD 1100 An Act To Support the Continued Access to Solar Energy and Battery Storage by Maine Homes and Businesses

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 264 requires the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules related to the interconnection of renewable capacity resources using solar power to investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities in a manner that supports the goals in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3474. It also directs the commission to contract with an expert to

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

evaluate near-term reforms to the State's interconnection standards, practices and procedures related to renewable capacity resources using solar power.

LD 1306 Resolve, To Facilitate the Inclusion of Crisis Response Services in Emergency Services Offered through the E-9-1-1 System

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 29 directs the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communications Bureau to research and review protocols and procedures necessary to ensure the delivery of crisis response services under the State's E-9-1-1 system and to submit a report on or before February 1, 2022 to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology outlining necessary protocols and procedures and including any recommendations needed to implement those protocols and procedures. After reviewing the report, the joint standing committee may report out related legislation to the 130th Legislature. It also provides a one-time allocation for consulting services.

LD 1328 An Act To Protect Maine Electricity Customers from Threats of Disconnection in the Wintertime

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 347 prohibits the use by a transmission and distribution utility of a notice or communication to a residential customer in the winter months that threatens disconnection on a specified date or within a specified time period unless the utility already has permission for the disconnection from the consumer assistance and safety division within the Public Utilities Commission. It also requires that any notice that in any way mentions disconnection during the winter months also state prominently that disconnection cannot take place without the advance permission of the consumer assistance and safety division and that the customer will be notified and heard. It also specifies that the notice permitted to be sent to a residential customer from a transmission and distribution utility during the disconnection prohibition period is deemed a notice of disconnection for the purpose of establishing eligibility for certain emergency assistance programs. A violation of these requirements subjects the utility to a penalty of up to \$2,500 per violation payable to the affected customer, in addition to any other remedies to which the customer may be legally entitled.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 1431 An Act To Allow Certain Veterans' Organizations To Be Billed for Electricity Usage at the Same Rate as Residential Customers and To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Consider Rate Design Modifications

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 244 requires a transmission and distribution utility to treat an eligible military veterans' organization as a residential customer if that organization requests to be billed as a residential customer, for the purpose of billing for electric power or service provided to a facility owned or rented by that organization if that organization is billed directly for electric power or service. It establishes a repeal date for this provision of September 1, 2025. It also requires the Public Utilities Commission in its grid modernization proceeding to consider rate design modifications, including adjustments to fixed charges and demand charges.

LD 1432 An Act To Update the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 362 amends the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund as follows:

1. It limits grants under the fund to a municipality or group of municipalities;
2. It provides definitions of "gigabit fiber-optic network," "symmetrical high-speed Internet" and "open-access network" and requires the ConnectMaine Authority, beginning in 2025, to establish minimum upload and download speeds for a symmetrical high-speed Internet at least equal to the minimum upload and download speeds available to a majority of urban census blocks in the United States;
3. It removes the cap on the amount of each grant, but limits the amount of ConnectMaine funds that may be used to 50% of the total cost of a project;
4. It maintains the requirement that a municipality provide at least a 25% cash match but provides that the cash match may not consist of funds from a source other than the municipality; and
5. It removes specific reporting requirements for applicants, instead requiring them to meet application requirements established by the authority.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 1484 An Act To Establish the Maine Connectivity Authority

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 364 enacts the Connectivity Infrastructure Act, which, among other things, sets forth state connectivity goals and establishes the Maine Connectivity Authority to further those goals through the development and financing of connectivity projects and through other activities.

This law also directs the Maine Connectivity Authority, in consultation with the ConnectMaine Authority, to review the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes pertaining to each entity and develop recommendations for any necessary changes to those provisions to facilitate the oversight of the ConnectMaine Authority by the Maine Connectivity Authority and any other recommendations. The Maine Connectivity Authority is directed to submit such recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology on or before January 15, 2022. After reviewing the recommendations, the joint standing committee may report out related legislation to the 130th Legislature.

Public Law 2021, chapter 364 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 24, 2021.

LD 1542 An Act To Repeal and Replace the Kittery Water District Charter

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 2 repeals and replaces the Kittery Water District charter, changing the boundaries of the district and making it a standard water district pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, chapter 64.

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 2 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 8, 2021.

LD 1619 An Act To Prohibit Offshore Wind Power Development in Territorial Waters and Submerged Lands of the State

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 407 prohibits the development of offshore wind power projects in the state-owned submerged lands or territorial waters and includes several exceptions to this prohibition. It specifies that the licensing, permitting or approval by a state agency or municipality or other political subdivision of the State of the siting, construction or operation of or the issuance of a lease or the grant of an easement or other real property interest for utility cables or transmission lines that are intended to support the generation of wind energy located seaward of territorial waters is prohibited unless, by March 1, 2023, the Governor's Energy Office has developed a

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

130TH FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS – 2021

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

strategic plan to inform the development of offshore wind power projects, has reviewed the ability of state laws and rules to protect Maine's coastal resources from the development of offshore wind energy generation located seaward of the territorial waters and, with input of the advisory board of the Offshore Wind Research Consortium established by this law, has identified the preliminary research questions the consortium seeks to answer regarding the development of offshore wind power projects. It requires the Governor's Energy Office to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utility matters notifying the committee of the completion of these requirements.

This law establishes the Offshore Wind Research Consortium, an initiative of the Governor's Energy Office, to coordinate, support and arrange for the conduct of research on offshore wind power projects in the Gulf of Maine. It requires the Governor's Energy Office, in consultation with independent scientific experts, to establish an advisory board to oversee the development and execution of a research strategy to better understand the local and regional impacts of floating offshore wind power projects in the Gulf of Maine. It specifies the minimum membership that is required on the board and the duties and authority of the board.

It establishes the Offshore Wind Research Consortium Fund as a nonlapsing fund to fund the consortium and the work of the advisory board. It specifies the fund is to be administered by the Governor's Energy Office and the Department of Marine Resources.

Lastly, this law requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, the Public Utilities Commission and the Department of Environmental Protection each to submit by February 1, 2022 legislation necessary to align those provisions of law under their respective jurisdictions with the prohibition on offshore wind power projects.

Public Law 2021, chapter 407 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 6, 2021.

LD 1625 An Act To Increase the Number of Lincolnville Sewer District Trustees from 3 to 5

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 9 increases the number of trustees of the Lincolnville Sewer District from three to five. Two of the new members are alternates who may vote only if a quorum has not yet been reached. It clarifies that two members of the board of trustees of the Lincolnville Sewer District constitutes a quorum.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 1659 An Act To Create the Maine Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 358 creates the Maine Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator to support the development of clean energy and sustainability projects and infrastructure through providing financing support, including loans, loan guarantees and other financial and risk mitigation products. The accelerator is administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust.

LD 1666 Resolve, To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Issue a Request for Information on a Statewide, Multi-use Online Energy Data Platform

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 63 requires the Public Utilities Commission to issue a request for information to evaluate the feasibility of the commission establishing and operating a statewide, multiple-use online energy data platform that will provide natural gas and electric utility customers with safe, secure access to information about their usage and will allow for the aggregation of and removal of personally identifiable information from community-level energy data. It requires the commission to submit a report, by January 31, 2022, to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology that includes the results of the evaluation. Lastly, it allows the committee to report out a bill during the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature based on the report.

LD 1682 An Act To Require Consideration of Climate Impacts by the Public Utilities Commission and To Incorporate Equity Considerations in Decision Making by State Agencies

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 279 adds to the purposes of the Public Utilities Commission the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. It requires the commission, in its execution of its duties, powers and regulatory functions to aid in the facilitation of the achievement of the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 576-A while ensuring system reliability and resource adequacy.

It requires the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, in consultation with other state agencies and offices, to develop methods to incorporate equity considerations in decision making at the Department of Environmental Protection, the Public Utilities Commission and other state agencies, and to develop definitions for “environmental justice,” “environmental justice populations,” “frontline communities” and any other terms determined to be necessary to capture equity considerations in decision making at the department, the commission and other state agencies. It requires the office to allow for input from the public and stakeholders. It requires the office to submit a report that includes any recommendations regarding definitions and equity

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

130TH FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS – 2021

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

considerations, including any suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by February 15, 2022. It allows each committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature based on the report.

LD 1710 An Act To Require Prompt and Effective Use of the Renewable Energy Resources of Northern Maine

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 380 establishes the Northern Maine Renewable Energy Development Program, administered by the Public Utilities Commission, to remove obstacles to the use of and development of renewable energy resources in Aroostook County and any other area of the State in which the retail market is administered by the Northern Maine Independent System Administrator.

It requires the commission to issue a request for proposals for the development and construction of the 345-kilovolt double circuit generation connection line, or at the commission's discretion a transmission line or lines capable of connecting renewable resources located in northern Maine with the electric grid operated by ISO-New England. It also requires the commission to issue a request for proposals for the development and construction of renewable energy generation projects in northern Maine to be connected to and to transmit generated electricity using the transmission line or lines constructed as a result of the request for proposals for transmission required by this law.

It provides the commission with discretion in its administration of the programs and specifies that if at the close of the competitive bidding process the commission determines that no proposal meets the requirements or that approval of a contract or contracts is not in the public interest, the commission may reject all proposals and open a new competitive bidding process.

In implementing and administering the Northern Maine Renewable Energy Development Program, the commission is directed to make every effort to facilitate the construction and development of the line or lines including participating in any regional or federal proceeding relating to the line or lines and participating in proceedings involving the inclusion or integration of the line or lines and any associated upgrades by the ISO-New England system or the New England Power Pool into the ISO-New England system's transmission plan, bulk power system and pool transmission facilities.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 1731 An Act To Create the Belgrade Water District

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 11 establishes the Belgrade Water District, a standard water district pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, chapter 64.

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 11 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 21, 2021.