

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 10 FY 87/88
DATE January 12, 1988

AN ORDER

TO RESTRICT STATE GOVERNMENT PURCHASE OF
CFC-CONTAINING POLYSTYRENE FOAM PRODUCTS

WHEREAS, polystyrene products are not biodegradable and therefore contribute to the problem of diminishing landfill space; and

WHEREAS, some polystyrene products are manufactured with chlorofluorocarbon (CFC); and

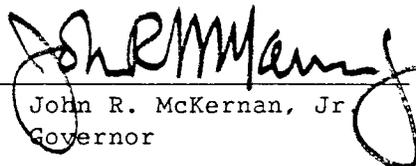
WHEREAS, mounting evidence has demonstrated that under certain conditions CFC reaches the upper atmosphere initiating chemical reactions that rapidly destroy ozone; and

WHEREAS, the ozone layer in the stratosphere protects the earth by blocking the sun's ultraviolet radiation, increased exposure to which causes sunburn and skin cancer and has been linked to cataracts and weakening of the immune system; and

WHEREAS, state government as a leader in environmental protection should encourage the use of alternatives to CFC-containing polystyrene foam products;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN R. MCKERNAN, JR., Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby direct that, effective immediately, the Bureau of Purchases of the Department of Administration substitute all orders for these CFC-containing polystyrene foam products with their non-CFC-containing equivalents. In addition, I encourage all State of Maine agency and departmental personnel not to use polystyrene foam products such as cups, bowls, and plates that contain chlorofluorocarbons. If an agency or department believes that its use of CFC-containing polystyrene foam products is essential to its mission, it shall seek an exemption from the State Purchasing Agent for each special use.

The effective date of this Order is January 12, 1988.


John R. McKernan, Jr.
Governor