

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: May 15, 1997

(Filing No. S- 231 )

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
118TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

SENATE AMENDMENT "A " to H.P. 546, L.D. 737, Bill, "An Act to Create an Apprentice Registration Category and to Exempt Certain Persons from Licensure under the Propane and Natural Gas Act"

Amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 6 by inserting at the end the following blocked paragraph:

'This subsection is repealed effective September 1, 1999 unless continued or modified by law.'

Further amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

**Sec. 3. Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to study continuing education for propane and natural gas helpers.** The Department of Professional and Financial Regulation shall conduct a study to determine the need for continuing education among propane and natural gas helpers. The continuing education courses considered by the department must include both correspondence and traditional classroom course work. The course work may include a number of hours of instruction in any of the courses required for the licensing of propane and natural gas technicians. The study must include information on injury rates among propane and natural gas helpers and technicians and information on education requirements for propane and natural gas helpers in other states. The department shall report its findings, including any recommendations for rule changes, to the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development by November 15, 1997.

**Sec. 4. Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to review propane and natural gas helper category.** The propane and natural gas helper category created by this Act in the Maine

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 546, L.D. 737

2 Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 14807, subsection 6 must be  
3 reviewed by the Department of Professional and Financial  
4 Regulation no later than January 31, 1999. The department shall  
5 report its findings, including any recommendations for  
6 legislation, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature  
7 having jurisdiction over business and economic development no  
8 later than March 30, 1999.'

10 **FISCAL NOTE**

11 This amendment will result in the loss of dedicated revenues  
12 collected from registration fees by the Propane and Natural Gas  
13 Board within the Department of Professional and Financial  
14 Regulation beginning in fiscal year 1999-2000. The estimated  
15 losses of dedicated revenue are \$3,500 and \$700 in fiscal years  
16 1999-2000 and 2000-01, respectively.

17 The Department of Professional and Financial Regulation will  
18 incur some minor additional costs to submit 2 required reports to  
19 the Legislature. These costs can be absorbed within the  
20 department's existing budgeted resources.  
21

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This amendment requires the Department of Professional and  
24 Financial Regulation to study education and training requirements  
25 for the propane and natural gas helper category created by the  
26 bill. The department is directed to report its findings and  
27 recommendations for rule changes by November 15, 1997. This  
28 amendment also requires the new category to be reviewed by the  
29 department and repeals the category, unless continued or modified  
30 by law, on September 1, 1999.  
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37 SPONSORED BY:   
38 (Senator RAND)  
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40 COUNTY: Cumberland  
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