

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2008

H. P. 1549

House of Representatives, January 24, 1972

Committee on Natural Resources suggested.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Whitzell of Gardiner.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-TWO

**AN ACT to Amend the Laws Pertaining to the Protection and Improvement
of Air by Establishing Ambient Air Quality Standards.**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

R. S., T. 38, § 584-A, additional. Title 38 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 584-A, to read as follows:

§ 584-A. — enactment

The ambient air quality standards set forth in this section, which are expressed in terms of 25° centigrade and 760 millimeters of mercury pressure, shall apply in all air quality regions:

1. Particulate matter.

A. Particulate matter concentration for any 24-hour period at any location shall not exceed 100 micrograms per cubic meter.

B. The annual geometric mean of the 24-hour particulate matter concentrations at any location shall not exceed 50 micrograms per cubic meter.

2. Sulfur dioxide.

A. Sulfur dioxide concentration for any 3-hour period at any location shall not exceed 1150 micrograms per cubic meter.

B. Sulfur dioxide concentration for any 24-hour period at any location shall not exceed 230 micrograms per cubic meter.

C. The annual arithmetic mean of the 24-hour average sulfur dioxide concentrations at any location shall not exceed 57 micrograms per cubic meter.

3. Carbon monoxide.

A. Carbon monoxide concentration for any 8-hour period at any location shall not exceed 10 milligrams per cubic meter, except once per year.

B. Carbon monoxide concentration for any 1-hour period at any location shall not exceed 40 milligrams per cubic meter, except once per year.

4. Photochemical oxidant. Photochemical oxidant concentration for any 1-hour period at any location shall not exceed 160 micrograms per cubic meter, except once per year.

5. Hydrocarbon. Hydrocarbon concentration for any 3-hour period (6 a.m. to 9 a.m.) at any location shall not exceed 160 micrograms per cubic meter, except once per year.

6. Nitrogen dioxide. The annual arithmetic mean of the 24-hour average nitrogen dioxide concentration at any location shall not exceed 100 micrograms per cubic meter.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 584 provides that the Environmental Improvement Commission shall establish "ambient air quality standards" for the State which regulate and limit the amount and types of air contaminants which may exist in the State. The Clean Air Act of 1970 required that the federal Environmental Protection Agency establish "national air quality standards". Pursuant to this law, on April 30, 1971, the Environmental Protection Agency promulgated ambient air quality standards setting limits for particular matter, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, photochemical oxidants, hydrocarbons, and nitrogen dioxide which apply nation-wide.

Pursuant to the Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 584, the Environmental Improvement Commission conducted 5 public hearings throughout the State at which all interested persons, including representatives of industry and conservation, presented testimony and asked questions. In addition to field studies conducted by the University of Maine, the Environmental Improvement Commission conducted field studies of ambient air quality in Maine.

Having carefully considered the results of these field studies, the evidence presented at the 5 public hearings and having studied the literature in the field, the Environmental Improvement Commission, pursuant to section 584, promulgated regulations establishing ambient air quality standards on October 22, 1971. These regulations are effective until 90 days after the date of adjournment of this special session of the Legislature unless it shall enact such standards.

It is the purpose of this bill to enact the standards established by the Environmental Improvement Commission.