

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 221

H. P. 179

House of Representatives, January 17, 1973

Referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Sproul of Augusta.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Inspection Methods and Frequencies of Steel Hot
Water Heating Boilers.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 26, § 244, amended. The first sentence of section 244 of Title 26 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

Each steam boiler used or proposed to be used within this State ~~and all hot water supply and hot water heating boilers located in schoolhouses, and all boilers owned by municipalities~~ except boilers exempt under section 142, shall be thoroughly inspected ~~while not under pressure~~ by the chief inspector or by one of the deputy inspectors or authorized inspectors, as to its design, construction, installation, condition and operation.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 26, § 244, amended. The 2nd sentence of section 244 of Title 26 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

The Board of Boiler Rules shall specify the method of inspection and the frequency of such inspections.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 26, § 244, amended. The 3rd sentence of section 244 of Title 26 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

Whenever any boiler is inspected as ~~provided for in this section~~ specified by the **Board of Boiler Rules** and is found to be suitable and to conform to the rules of the Board of Boiler Rules, upon payment of the fee of \$5 to the

bureau by the owner or user of such a boiler, the chief inspector shall issue to said owner or user an inspection certificate for each such boiler.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Presently, the law requires that steel hot water heating boilers be internally inspected annually. This is not good engineering practice. A hot water heating system is filled with water which is purified by heat. Unless there is excessive leakage, no new water carrying impurities is added, therefore, there are no impurities to attack the boiler metal. When annual internal inspection is required by law, the entire hot water heating system must be drained for inspection and then refilled with impure water.

If the Board of Boiler Rules is given authority to establish inspection frequencies, they will require that steel hot water heating boilers be internally inspected once every 3 years which is the accepted practice in most states and with most insurance companies. They will still require that the boiler will be inspected annually; but, on the other 2 years, the inspections will be called "certificate inspections."