MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1710

H. P. 1416 House of Representatives, April 4, 1973 Reported by Mr. Huber of Falmouth from the Committee on Natural Resources and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Disposal of Septic Tank or Cesspool Waste.

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

R. S., T. 30, §§ 4104 and 4105, additional. Title 30 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding 2 new sections, 4104 and 4105, to read as follows:

§ 4104. Septic tank and cesspool waste

Each municipality shall provide for the disposal of all waste, refuse, effluent, sludge or any other materials from all septic tanks and cesspools located within the municipality. The location, operation and maintenance of any facility or site used for this purpose other than a sewage treatment plant shall be subject to the approval of the Department of Environmental Protection in order to insure that disposal of wastes at such sites will not contaminate any bodies of water, water supplies, ground water or constitute a hazard to health or safety or create a nuisance to any person. The Department of Environmental Protection shall also issue license certificates at a fee of no more than \$200 to Maine-based septic tank pumpers and conveyors of said wastes and no septic tank pumper or conveyor of such waste shall operate without said license certificate. All license fees collected shall constitute a fund which shall be a continuous carrying account for discharging the duties of the department. Industrial wastes shall not be included in this provision.

§ 4105. Disposal of certain materials prohibited

No person, firm, corporation or other legal entity shall dispose of any waste, refuse, effluent, sludge or any other materials from a septic tank or cesspool on any land or soil or at any other site or place within the State of Maine other than sites provided in section 4104, except that a person may

bury, plow under, or otherwise suitably dispose of on his own land such waste, refuse, effluent, sludge or any other materials removed from a septic tank or cesspool serving his residence. Any person who violates this section or section 4104 shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000.

The Superior Court shall have jurisdiction to restrain or enjoin violations of this section and to enter decrees requiring the removal of waste matter deposited in or on any land or soil within the State in violation of this section.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill would require municipalities to provide for the disposal of all waste, refuse, effluent, sludge or other materials from septic tanks or cesspools. In communities where the site for such disposal is other than a sewage treatment plant, the disposal site will be subject to the approval of the Department of Environmental Protection. No disposal of septic tank wastes shall be allowed in other than approved sites, subject to fine.