

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1831

H. P. 1375

House of Representatives, April 3, 1973

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Sheltra of Biddeford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT to Amend the Site Location of Development Act.

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

R. S., T. 38, § 484, amended. The 2d paragraph of section 484 of Title 38 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 2 of chapter 571 of the public laws of 1969, and as amended by section 12 of chapter 618 of the public laws of 1971, is further amended to read as follows:

At such hearing the board shall solicit and receive testimony to determine whether such development will in fact substantially affect the environment ~~or pose a threat to~~ and its effect upon the public's health, safety or general welfare.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to provide an opportunity to view Maine's total environment and to change Maine's attitude on the environment from a negative to a positive position, and to provide for assessment of the net effect of programs. It is a recognition of the fact that part of Maine's environment is its people and its socio-economic structure is perhaps its greatest resource.

It is not designed to change Maine's position toward the environment, but is designed to look at the total effect of a project on the total environmental resources of Maine — both natural and socio-economic — To Enhance the Quality of Life.

In the 1970's Maine's out-migration, which is now 3,000 per year, is expected to increase to between 5,000 and 6,000 per year. These are Maine's sons and daughters who are already in our school system and most of whom desire to remain in Maine. While it is difficult to measure out-migration in terms of dollars, the tax expense runs about \$30,000,000 now and will increase in this decade to between \$50,000,000 and \$60,000,000.