

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(New Title)
New Draft of H. P. 2056, L. D. 2120
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2176

H. P. 2184

House of Representatives, March 7, 1978

Reported by a Majority from the Committee on Energy and printed under Joint Rules No. 2

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-EIGHT

AN ACT to Empower the Oil Burner Men's Licensing Board to Inspect and Approve Coal and Wood Fuel Central Heating Equipment.

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA § 2301, sub-§ 1-A, 2nd, 3rd and 4th sentences, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 356, § 2, are repealed.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA § 2301, sub-§ 5 is enacted to read:

5. Coal and wood central heating equipment. "Coal and wood fuel central heating equipment" shall mean any heating plant equipped with a furnace or boiler using coal or wood, or both, as fuel and designed specifically to be attached to or as an integral part of a central heating distribution system. Fireplace stoves and radiant room heaters as defined by the National Fire Protection Association or Underwriters Laboratories Inc. shall not be considered to be within the definition of central heating equipment.

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA § 2301-A is enacted to read:

§ 2301-A. Approval process

No oil burning equipment or coal or wood central heating equipment shall be sold or offered for sale in this State unless the equipment is approved by the Oil Burner Men's Licensing Board. Devices listed for a specific purpose by Underwriters Laboratories Inc., or any other nationally recognized testing facility may be considered as meeting the requirements of the standards of the board. All other equipment shall be submitted to the board for review. The board may require the equipment to be tested by the Southern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this new draft is to permit the Oil Burner Men's Licensing Board to approve coal and wood furnaces which are specifically designed to be attached to a central heating distribution system. The original bill does not require board approval of the installation of coal and wood central heating equipment.

As a result of the energy crisis and rising energy costs, the public is using coal and wood furnaces for central heating. In order to protect the public from equipment that could be dangerous, it is necessary to provide for the inspection and approval of this equipment prior to its use in Maine.