

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 584**

S. P. 211

In Senate, February 15, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Taxation and ordered printed.

Presented by Senator Teague of Somerset.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

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**AN ACT to Exempt Solid Waste Used as a Fuel from the Sales Tax.**

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA § 1752, sub-§ 14-B is enacted to read:

§ 14-B Solid Waste. "Solid Waste" means any garbage, refuse, shavings, sawdust, chips, bark, slabs, inert fill material, discarded material including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, mining and agricultural operations, or sludge from a waste treatment plant, water supply treatment plant or air pollution control facility.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA § 1760, sub-§ 41 is enacted to read:

§ 41. Solid Waste used as a fuel. Sales of solid waste to be burned as a fuel for the primary purpose of producing heat or power.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to encourage the use of solid waste as a fuel. Few industries generate sufficient waste in their own operations to justify construction of facilities to use that waste as a fuel to generate heat or power. Investment in these facilities might be feasible on a larger scale if large quantities of waste could be made available at reasonable cost.

Burning of solid waste not only reduces to some extent the current dependence on fuel oil but also provides a means of reducing the volume of large quantities of solid waste materials that might otherwise present environmental problems.