

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 632

H. P. 490

House of Representatives, February 16, 1979

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. McSweeney of Old Orchard Beach.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Prevent Sludge from Being Deposited within 1,000 feet of any
Residency.

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

38 MRSA § 1323, is enacted to read:

§ 1323. Sludge handling

1. Spreading or disposal on frozen ground. No field spreading or disposal of sludge shall be done on frozen or snow covered ground except upland soils of not more than 3% slope. Rate of application on snow or frozen ground shall not exceed 200 pounds of nitrogen per acre or the rate shown in Table 1 of Maine Guidelines for Municipal Sewage Treatment Plant Sludge Disposal on the land published by the Life Science and Agriculture Experiment Station and the Cooperative Extension Services, University of Maine at Orono and the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission dated November 1975 (Miscellaneous Report 175).

2. Location from dwellings and roads. The spreading or disposal site for sludge shall be located a minimum of 1000 feet away from inhabited dwellings and public roads. Sludge lagoons shall be 3,000 feet from inhabited dwellings.

3. Records. Permanent records shall be kept on the volume (rate) and location of each disposal site.

4. Fencing. Spreading and disposal sites for sludge shall be fenced and clearly identified with signs that can be readily seen from all sides of the site.

5. Definition. "Sludge" means the concentration of solids in sewage and other waste waters including, but not limited to, septic tank and cesspool materials or raw or stabilized treatment plant materials.

6. Rules and regulations. The Department of Environmental Protection, may, after public hearing, adopt, amend and repeal reasonable rules in accordance with Title 5, chapter 375, sections 851, et seq., necessary for the proper administration, enforcement, implementation and interpretation of this section.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to regulate the spreading or disposal of sludge.