

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1158

S. P. 378

In Senate, March 13, 1979

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

Presented by Senator O'Leary of Oxford.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to Appointment of Local Plumbing Inspectors in the  
Unorganized Townships.

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

**Sec. 1.** 30 MRSA § 3222, sub-§ 1, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 521, § 4, is amended to read:

**1. Appointment, compensation, removal.** In every municipality, the municipal officers, **and in the unorganized townships, the respective county commissioners**, shall appoint one or more inspectors of plumbing, who may or may not be residents of the municipality **or unorganized township** for which they are appointed, and who shall hold office for one year.

Compensation of plumbing inspectors shall be determined by the **appointing** municipal officers **or county commissioners** and shall be paid by their respective municipalities **or counties**.

A plumbing inspector may be removed for cause by the **appointing** municipal officers, **or county commissioners**, after notice and hearing.

**Sec. 2.** 30 MRSA § 3222, sub-§ 3, ¶ A, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 521, § 4 is amended to read:

**A.** Inspect all plumbing for which permits are granted, within their respective municipalities, **or in the case of county inspectors, within the unorganized**

**townships of these counties**, to assure compliance with state and municipal regulations and investigate all construction or work covered by those regulations;

**Sec. 3. 30 MRSA § 3222, sub-§ 3, ¶ D**, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 521, § 4 is amended to read:

**D.** Keep an accurate account of all fees collected by him, and to transfer such fees to the municipal treasurer **or in the case of fees collected in unorganized townships, the county treasurer;**

**Sec. 4. 30 MRSA § 3223, sub-§ 1, first sentence**, as amended by PL 1977, c. 271, § 2 is further amended to read:

No pipes, tanks, faucets, valves or other fixtures not related to a manufacturing or industrial operation or the waste from such operation located on or about such operation shall be placed in any building, nor shall any septic tank or other system of subsurface sewage disposal be installed to receive the drainage from such plumbing, except to repair leaks or to replace an existing fixture, except a water heater, to be used for the same purposes, unless a permit for installation of such work has been issued by the municipal plumbing inspector **or, in an unorganized township, the county plumbing inspector.**

**Sec. 5. 30 MRSA § 3223, sub-§ 2, 2nd ¶**, as amended by PL 1975, c. 303, is further amended to read:

The remainder shall be paid to the treasurer of the municipality **or, in the case of fees collected in unorganized townships, the treasurer of the county** and used exclusively for carrying out the plumbing laws in each such municipality **or county.**

**Sec. 6. 30 MRSA § 3225**, as amended by PL 1975, c. 293, § 4, is further amended to read:

#### **§ 3225. Annual reports**

Inspectors of plumbing shall annually, before the first day of February, make a full report in detail to ~~their respective municipalities~~ **the municipality or county which appointed them** and to the Department of Human Services of all their proceedings during the previous calendar year under this subchapter.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

At present there is no governmental entity, at any level, with the authority to appoint local plumbing inspectors for the unorganized townships. Plumbing inspections are not being performed at present in the unorganized townships. The purpose of this bill is to provide the county commissioners with the appointment authority.

There are approximately 250 building permits issued in the unorganized townships each year. The inspection fee, for the inspection of a new subsurface disposal system is \$28. This will make approximately \$5,250 available to county treasuries for inspection purposes and \$1,750 available to the State.