

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
109TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

(Filing No. S-256)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 468, L.D. 1479, Bill, "AN ACT Relating to the Protection of Ground Water."

Amend the bill by inserting after the enacting clause the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §542, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Identification and mapping. The survey, in cooperation with the United States Geological Survey is directed to delineate those areas of the State which are underlain with porous surficial geologic materials which are aquifers capable of and likely to yield significant amounts of ground water. The survey is directed to delineate areas that serve as important aquifer recharge areas. Aquifers and aquifer recharge areas shall be identified by standard geologic and hydrologic investigations, which may include drilling observation wells, performing pumping tests, water sampling and geologic mapping.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §542, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. Solicitation of information. Insofar as possible, all state agencies shall provide any information on geological resources, including ground water, that the survey may request. The survey shall actively solicit the cooperation of private water well drillers in obtaining information on surficial geology, bedrock and the hydrology of the State.'

D. OF R.

Further amend the bill in section 6 by inserting at the  
before the period  
end of subsection 1-B the following:

'as identified by the Maine Geological Survey'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 9  
and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 9. 38 MRSA §371-B is enacted to read:

§371-B. Classification of ground water

All ground water shall be classified as not less than Class  
GW-A, except as otherwise provided in this section. The board  
may recommend to the Legislature the reclassification of any  
ground water, after careful consideration, public hearings and  
in consultation with other state agencies and the municipalities  
and industries involved, and where the board finds that it is  
in the best interests of the public that the waters be so  
classified.'

Further amend the bill in section 10 by striking out all  
of that part designated "§402." and by renumbering that part  
designated "§403." to be '§402.'

Further amend the bill by renumbering the sections to read  
consecutively.

D. OF R.

Statement of Fact

This amendment directs the Maine Geological Survey to identify and map aquifers and aquifer recharge areas.

This amendment also provides that reclassification of ground water quality will not become effective until enacted by the Legislature.

The final change, before renumbering of sections of the bill, removes the reference to possible liability for altering the water table or the quantity of water in wells.

Reported by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Reproduced and distributed pursuant to Senate Rule 11-A.

May 30, 1979

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