

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(Governor's Bill)  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1893

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H. P. 1782

House of Representatives, January 25, 1980

On Motion of Mr. Brannigan Reconsidered reference and on further motion of the same gentleman, referred to the Committee on Business Legislation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk of the House

Presented by Mr. Birt of E. Millinocket.

Cosponsors: Mrs. Kany of Waterville and Mrs. A. Brown of Gorham.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY

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**AN ACT Pertaining to the Sale of Urea-formaldehyde Insulation.**

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

10 MRSA § 1482, sub-§ 2, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 660, is amended to read:

2. **Type of insulation.** The type of insulation to be installed **and, in the event that urea-formaldehyde insulation is to be installed, the owner of the residence to be insulated shall be warned that urea-formaldehyde may cause the occupants to experience harmful side effects, including respiratory problems, itching scratching and burning eyes;**

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to inform the public that urea-formaldehyde may cause the occupants of a residence to experience harmful side effects. In Massachusetts, the state has prohibited the installation of urea-formaldehyde insulation because of the number of problems it has created.

While it may cost a relatively small amount to insulate average size residence with urea-formaldehyde, it may cost more that \$20,000 to remove it. According to

Massachusetts Department of Energy officials, the department has received numerous complaints pertaining to urea-formaldehyde insulation. In a number of cases, contractors have removed the insulation at the contractors' own cost.

In order to avoid serious problems in Maine with respect to urea-formaldehyde insulation, this bill provides a warning to the owner of the residence that this type of insulation may be hazardous to the occupants.