

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 861

H. P. 728

House of Representatives, February 13, 1981

Referred to the Committee on Public Utilities. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Davies of Orono.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT Concerning the Method of Decommissioning Nuclear Power Plants.

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

10 MRSA § 257 is enacted to read:

§ 257. Decommissioning

At the end of the useful life or licensing period of a nuclear energy generating facility located within the State, neither of the following procedures may be used to effect the decommissioning of that facility:

1. Mothballing. A procedure, commonly known as mothballing, which involves:

A. Removing high level wastes for disposal at a separate radioactive waste disposal site;

B. Closing the remaining radioactive areas and locking the entrances to those areas;

C. Continually monitoring radiation levels; and

D. Providing continuous security; or

2. Entombment. A procedure, commonly known as entombment, which involves:

- A. Removing high level wastes for disposal at a separate radioactive waste disposal site;**
- B. Encasing any contaminated components, such as a reactor, in a concrete tomb;**
- C. Sealing off less radioactive parts or areas of the facility;**
- D. Continually monitoring radiation levels; and**
- E. Providing continuous security.**

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill prohibits mothballing or entombment as methods of decommissioning any nuclear power reactor in this State. Neither of these methods provide sufficient levels of public health safeguards.