

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EMERGENCY  
(Governor's Bill)  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 977**

H. P. 863

House of Representatives, February 23, 1981

Reference to the Committee on Business Legislation suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative J. Martin of Eagle Lake.

Cosponsors: Senator Pray of Penobscot, Senator Collins of Knox and Representative Huber of Falmouth.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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**AN ACT to Repeal the Termination Date of the Emergency Petroleum Products Supply Act.**

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**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the reduction or discontinuance of petroleum product supplies to the State threatens the health, safety and welfare of Maine citizens; and

Whereas, the Emergency Petroleum Products Supply Act, Title 10, section 1458, which requires suppliers to give one year's notice of any discontinuance or reduction in supply to the State or to find an alternative supplier for customers in Maine, expires April 1, 1981; and

Whereas, a reduction or discontinuance in petroleum product supplies may occur after April 1, 1981, because federal regulations controlling the price and allocation of crude oil and petroleum products were lifted on January 28, 1981; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

**Sec. 1.** 10 MRSA § 1458, sub-§ 3, ¶ B, sub-¶ (3), as enacted by PL 1981, c. 3, is amended to read:

(3) In the event of requirements regulating allocations of petroleum products imposed by an agency of the Federal Government or requirements established by the United States Petroleum Marketing Practices Act of 1978, Public Law 95-297, 92 Stat 322, United States Code, Title 15, Section 2801.

**Sec. 2.** 10 MRSA § 1458, sub-§ 6, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 3, is repealed.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of repealing the termination date of the Emergency Petroleum Products Supply Act, Public Law 1981, chapter 3, is to continue the provisions of this legislation in order to prevent or mitigate the effects of reductions or discontinuances of petroleum supplies to the State. Now that federal regulations controlling the price and allocation of crude oil and petroleum products are no longer in effect, major oil companies have no obligation to continue supplying the Maine market. The Emergency Petroleum Products Supply Act, currently set to expire April 1, 1981, requires suppliers to give at least one year's notice of a supply reduction or discontinuance to Maine customers or to locate an alternative supplier. Also, the Act has been amended in order to bring it into conformance with existing federal legislation.