

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1777

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-729)
110TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1787, L.D. 1777, Bill,
"AN ACT to Clarify the Discharge Requirements for the Pro-
cessing of Certain Marine Resources."

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Amend the bill by striking out everything after the
enacting clause and before the emergency clause and insert-
ing in its place the following:

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'38 MRSA §455 is enacted to read:

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§455. Sardine processing facilities

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1. Legislative purpose. The purpose of this section
is to provide a 2-year period during which effluent guide-
lines and control technologies for treatment of sardine
plant wastewater discharge may be evaluated and developed.

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2. Interim licenses. Notwithstanding any other provi-
sion of law, the department shall issue a wastewater dis-
charge license to any existing sardine processing facility,
whenever it finds that the facility:

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A. Employs proper housekeeping and management prac-
tices normally observed by prudent operators of similar
facilities, and efficient operation of all control
technology;

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B. Screens all process wastewaters except retort water
in a screening device with an efficiency equivalent to
that obtained from a number 30 standard sieve; and

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C. Separates oil in all oil-bearing wastewaters in a
gravity oil separator.

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Pending acceptance of the study required under subsection 3,
no license issued under this subsection may contain any
numerical effluent limitations, nor may any such license be
issued for a period of more than 2 years, except that noth-
ing in this section may prevent the department from issuing

1 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1787, L.D. 1777

2 a license for longer than 2 years to a facility which has
3 installed treatment methods beyond those referred to in
4 paragraphs B and C. During the 2-year period, no state
5 agency may impose or enforce treatment standards or require-
6 ments more stringent than those required by this subsection.

7 3. Study. The commissioner, in cooperation with the
8 sardine industry, shall conduct a study of the Maine sardine
9 industry. This study shall consider:

10 A. Initiation of a program to ensure quality control
11 of industry monitoring data;

12 B. Other data necessary to establish effluent stan-
13 dards;

14 C. Current or proposed federal categorization and
15 effluent limitations for the sardine industry, and
16 their relation to practices in Maine; and

17 D. Determination of best practicable control technol-
18 ogy currently available for the sardine industry,
19 including the performance and availability of control
20 technology, the economic impact of the implementation
21 of this technology and any other issues deemed rele-
22 vant.

23 The commissioner shall submit this report to the joint
24 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
25 over marine resources by January 15, 1984.

26 STATEMENT OF FACT

27 There is a great deal of confusion on what waste dis-
28 charge technology is available for the sardine industry, how
29 well the equipment works, whether the treatment equipment
30 can meet effluent standards and exactly what standards each
31 plant is required to meet. This amendment directs the
32 Department of Environmental Protection to issue waste dis-
33 charge licenses for up to 2 years to sardine plants that
34 employ technology currently required. It also requires the
35 department, in cooperation with the sardine industry, to
36 conduct a study of the situation and report to the First
37 Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. This amendment

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2 further provides that, during this 2-year period, no state
3 agency may impose or enforce any other treatment standards
4 or requirements.

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Reported by the Majority of the Committee on Marine Resources.
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3/31/82

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