MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 2	FIRST REGULAR SESSION
3 4	ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
5 6	Legislative Document No. 770
7 8	H.P. 549 House of Representatives, February 10, 1983 Referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Institutional Services.
9	On February 15, 1983, on Motion of Representative Nelson of Portland, House receded from reference to the Committee on Health and Institutional
10	Services and concurred with the Senate reference to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk Presented by Representative Michael of Auburn. Cosponsors: Representative Gauvreau of Lewiston, Senator Bustin of Kennebec and Senator Pearson of Penobscot.
11	Kennebec and Senator Pearson of Penooscot.
12 13	STATE OF MAINE
14 15 16	IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
17 18 19 20	AN ACT Relating to the Identification and the Hazards of Exposure to Toxic and Hazardous Substances.
21 22	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
23	Sec. 1. 26 MRSA c. 22, as amended, is repealed.
24	Sec. 2. 26 MRSA c. 24 is enacted to read:
25	CHAPTER 24
26	CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE IDENTIFICATION
27	§1901. Scope and application
28 29 30	The handling, storage, use, transport, processing, discharge and disposal of toxic and hazardous substances may endanger the health, welfare and

safety of those who live and work within the State.

It is necessary for the protection of the citizens and workers of the towns and cities of the State that employers who manufacture, process, use or store toxic and hazardous substances disclose to their employees, local fire departments and the Bureau of Health or the Bureau of Labor Standards the identify of and hazards associated with those substances.

Disclosure is necessary so that workers, residents and fire departments may respond quickly to any health problem or other emergency created by the handling, storage, use, discharging, transporting, processing or disposal of toxic and hazardous substances.

Individuals who live and work within the State have a right to know the identities of the toxic and hazardous substances to which they may be exposed and these same individuals as well as local fire departments have the right to know the health hazards associated with the substances to which they may be exposed.

§1902. Exemptions

 Notwithstanding any language contrary to this section, this chapter shall not apply to substances which are:

1. Consumer products and food stuffs. Consumer products and food stuffs packaged for distribution to, and intended for use by, the general public. This includes any labeled product used or stored in a workplace in the same form, approximate volume or amount, concentration and manner as it is sold to and used by the general public, provided that it remains labeled in the workplace, and to which, in the employers' knowledge, employee exposure is not significantly different from that of the general public during foreseeable use of the substance. Ingredients used in the production of food stuffs which are regulated by the United States Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, as amended;

- 4 3. Located in containers. Located in containers having a volume of less than one gallon of liquid.
- 6 §1903. Definitions

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- As used in this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms have the following meanings:
 - 1. CAS number. "CAS number" means the identification number assigned by the Chemical Abstracts Service to chemical substances.
 - 2. Chemical name. "Chemical name" means the scientific designation of a substance in accordance with the nomenclature system developed by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry or the Chemical Abstract Service Rules of Nomenclature.
- 3. Common name. "Common name" means any designation or identification, such as trade name or number, code name or brand name used by the employer to identify a substance other than its chemical name.
 - 4. Container. "Container" means any receptacle or formed or flexible covering for toxic or hazardous substances, including, but not limited to, bag, barrel, bottle, box, can cylinder, drum, carton, stationary or mobile storage tank, vessel or vat.
- 5. Employee. "Employee" means any person who works, with or without compensation, in a workplace.
- 6. Employer. "Employer" means any person, firm, corporation, partnership, association or other entity engaged in a business or in providing services which has employees, including the State and any of its political subdivisions. The term employer does not include the employment of domestic workers or casual laborers employed at the place of residence of the

36 employer.

1 7. Label. "Label" means written, printed and graphic information displayed on or affixed to the container of a substance.

- 8. Material safety data sheet. "Material safety data sheet" means that listing of information as required by section 1906.
- 9. Store. To "store" means to deposit or place a substance in the city or town for a period of 48 hours or more.
- 10 10. Substance. "Substance" means any element, 11 entity, compound, combination or any mixture thereof, 12 whether organic or inorganic.
 - 11. Trace quantity. "Trace quantity" means a quantity of a substance which constitutes less than 1% of the total substance or the total volume of the substance in question. "Toxic or hazardous substance" shall not mean any substance which contains only a trace quantity of a toxic or hazardous substance.
- 20 <u>12. Toxic and hazardous substance. "Toxic and hazardous substance" means, except as provided in section 1902, a substance which satisfies any of the following requirements:</u>
 - A. A substance which, because of the toxic or hazardous properties which it exhibits, is determined by the Legislature or the Director of the Bureau of Health to represent a significant risk to the public health and safety as a result of foreseeable use, handling, accidental spill, exposure or contamination; or
 - B. A substance which is known by the employer to present a significant risk of personal injury or illness in workplaces in the State as the result of foreseeable use, handling, accidental spill, exposure or contamination. This subsection shall be construed as requiring any employer to compile or generate new data.
- Any mixture containing more than a trace quantity of a toxic or hazardous substance is a toxic or hazard-ous substance.

- 13. Work area. "Work area" means any room or defined space, whether within or outside of a build-ing or other structure, where substances are used, manufactured, processed or stored, and includes, but not limited to, areas where substances are handled, mixed, packaged, repackaged or transported and where employees or others are likely to be present.
- 9 14. Workplace. "Workplace" means an establish-10 ment or business at one geographic location contain-11 ing one or more work areas.
- 12 §1904. Labeling of toxic and hazardous substances

- 1. Labels. Any employer who manufacturers, processes, uses or stores toxic or hazardous substances in the State shall clearly label every container of a toxic or hazardous substance having a capacity of one gallon or more and which appears on the workplace of any manufacturer, processor, user or storer with the following information:
 - A. The chemical name of the toxic or hazardous substances contained therein. An employer who has registered the name of a substance as a trade secret according to section 1911 may choose not to place the chemical name on any or all containers in its possession, provided that if an election is made by the employer, the container must bear a code which identifies the applicable material safety data sheet, and the labeling provisions of paragraph B must be complied with; and
 - B. The category and degree of hazard conveyed through the color and number coding system adopted by the National Fire Protection Association, Inc., as published in the 1980 edition of NFPA 704, entitled "Standard System for the Identification of the Fire Hazards of Materials." A copy of NFPA 704 shall be on file for public inspection at the Bureau of Health and in the Maine State Library.
- Labeling of toxic or hazardous substances, as required by this section, shall not be considered a disclosure of trade secret information.

- 2. Exemptions. Toxic or hazardous substances used in scientific experimentation or analysis, chem-2 ical research or product development are exempted from the labeling requirements of this chapter, provided that:
 - A. Quantities used are not greater than reasonably necessary for these purposes;
 - B. Employees are adequately advised of the toxic or hazardous properties of these substances;
 - C. Substances are used by, or directly under the supervision of a properly trained individual assigned to conduct research or product development.
 - 3. Transfers. An employer is not required to label a container of a toxic or hazardous substance which is 10 gallons or less in volume, into which toxic or hazardous substances are transferred from labeled containers and which are intended only for immediate use of the employee who performs the transfer.

21 §1905. Posting requirements

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Every employer manufacturing, processing, using or storing a toxic or hazardous substance in the workplace shall post a sign in every work area, at the location or locations where notices to employees are normally posted, to inform employees that they or their collective bargaining agent, or both, or other designated representative have a right to information from their employer regarding the toxic or hazardous substances found in workplaces and a description of the toxic or hazardous effects of the substances and the circumstances under which these effects may be produced.

§1906. Material safety data sheets

1. Information to be compiled. Every employer manufacturing, processing, using or storing a toxic or hazardous substance in a workplace within the State shall compile and provide to the local fire Bureau of Health department upon request and the

- annually a material safety data sheet for every toxic or hazardous substance which appears in its workplace within the State. The material safety data sheet shall set forth the following information:
- 5 A. The chemical name, trade name, common name, 6 CAS number and any other commonly used name of 7 the substance, except as provided in section 1911;
- B. The routes of exposure, such as inhalation, ingestion, adsorption or absorption;
- 11 C. The symptoms of and acute and chronic effects 12 of exposure to the substance at hazardous levels;
- D. The potential for flammability, explosion and reactivity of the substance;
- 15 E. Appropriate emergency treatment in the event 16 of exposure to hazardous levels;
- F. Proper conditions for safe use and exposure to the substance, including the need for personal protective equipment;
- 20 G. Procedures for cleanup of leaks and spills of the substance, including emergency procedures for fire and explosion;
- H. Any known danger, hazard or risk resulting from the use of the substance, whether by itself or in combination or mixture, or a statement that there are no known dangers, hazards or risks, based upon tests conducted by the manufacturer, or research of the technical literature available or the toxic or hazardous substance; and
- 30 <u>I. The name, address and the current telephone</u> 31 number of the manufacturer.
- 2. Copies available. The employer shall ensure that copies of material safety data sheets for each toxic or hazardous substance are located at each workplace and are readily accessible to employees or their representatives, or both, for examination during all hours of operation.

- 1 3. Update data sheets. Whenever an employer 2 receives new information concerning those subjects 3 listed in subsection 1, whether from the manufactuer, processor or other supplier or from state or federal 4 agencies, that employer must update the relevant 5 6 material safety data sheet and must make that new 7 information available to employees and, if 8 requested, their representatives, upon receipt of the 9 information.
- 10 4. Maintenance of data for one year. employer shall retain material safety data sheets re-11 12 quired under subsection 1 for a period of at least 13 one year after the toxic or hazardous substance 14 last used, manufactured, processed or stored in its 15 workplace.
 - §1907. Location of toxic or hazardous substance

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- 1. Lists of work areas in workplace. For the purposes of local fire department inspections, every employer shall compile and provide to the fire chief, upon request, lists of work areas in the workplace where toxic or hazardous substances are manufactured, processed, used or stored. The lists shall also specify, in alphabetical order by chemical name, all toxic or hazardous substances regularly present in each work area. Each list shall contain sufficient information to identify the work area by name and location.
- 28 2. Introduction of substance to workplace. When 29 a toxic or hazardous substance is introduced to 30 workplace, the employer shall add the toxic or hazardous substance and the date introduced to the lists prior to worker exposure.
- 33 Trade secret information. The supplying of information to the fire chief under subsections 1 and 34 35 2 shall not be considered disclosure of trade secret information. An employer shall specify which information, if any, contained on the lists is trade 36 37 secret information and is protected from improper use 38 and dissemination under section 1911. 39
 - §1908. Maintenance of records

- 1 1. Bureau of Health to maintain records. The
 Bureau of Health shall accumulate and maintain the
 following information as received from manufacturers,
 processors, users or storers of toxic or hazardous
 substances in each locality:
- A. Material safety data sheets provided in accordance with section 1906;
- 8 B. Information as to the exact location of all toxic or hazardous substances which is provided in accordance with section 1907; and
- 11 C. The approximate amount used annually.
- 2. Availability of records. With the exception
 of information classified as trade secrets pursuant
 to section 1911, information maintained under subsection 1, is part of the public record and must be made
 available to any local resident.

§1909. Inspections

- 1. Entry for inspection. Each local fire chief 18 or designated representative shall have the right to 19 entry at reasonable hours into any workplace when the 20 21 chief has reason to believe or suspect that employees or residents may be exposed to toxic substances at 22 hazardous levels, either in the course of normal usage or in the event of accidental spill or emer-23 24 gency. The chief or designee shall not attempt a 25 forcible entry should the employer refuse to consent to such an inspection, but shall seek a proper search 26 27 28 warrant. These inspections shall be for the purpose 29 of determining:
- A. That toxic or hazardous substances are properly labeled consistent with section 1904 and the required information is contained on the material safety data sheets;
- 34 B. That appropriate safety, containment and clean-up equipment is readily available; and
- 36 C. That the location of toxic or hazardous sub-37 stances is consistent with the information re-38 quired under section 1907.

- 2. Assistance. If an inspection has been determined to be necessary by the fire chief, the chief may request the Department of Human Services, Division of Health Engineering, to assist in or conduct the inspection. The division will provide such assistance as requested, or may initiate inspections when the Directors of the Bureau of Labor Standards or Bureau of Health believe that workers or residents may be exposed to toxic substances at hazardous levels.
- 3. Request for inspection. Any employee, representative of employees, or local resident, who believes that a violation of this chapter exists may request an inspection by giving written notice to the local fire chief, his designated representative, or the Bureau of Health or the Bureau of Labor Standards of the violation. Upon the request of the person giving the notice, his identity and that of the employees referred to in the notice shall be confidential information and shall not be revealed or published by the fire department or the Bureau of Health or the Bureau of Labor Standards, except for good cause upon court order.
- 4. Time period for inspection. The Bureau of Labor Standards shall investigate, within 72 hours, any complaint in which it is alleged that employees have been ordered to work with substances which are not labeled as required by this chapter or for which material safety data sheets required by this chapter are not accessible to employees.

§1910. Employees' rights

- 1. Employer or employers to provide information. Employees, their designated representatives or their recognized collective bargaining agents, or both, may request in writing, and the employer or employers shall provide, any information relating to toxic or hazardous substances which the employer is required to maintain pursuant to this chapter.
- 2. Period information to be furnished. Upon receipt of a request for information, the employer must provide the requested information within 72 hours, excluding weekends and public holidays. If

the information is not provided, the employee may not be required to work with the toxic or hazardous substance until the information is made available.

- 3. Right to participate in inspection. Any employee or designated representative, or both, shall have the right to accompany the inspector from the fire department or the Division of Health Engineering and to participate in any inspection provided for in this section at no loss of pay.
- 4. Discharge, discipline or discrimination. No employer may discharge, cause to be discharged or otherwise disciplined or in any manner discriminate against any employee or prospective employee for the reason or reasons that the person has exercised any right, made any claim or filed any complaint or suit or has instituted, or caused to be instituted, any proceeding under this chapter, or has testified, or is about to testify, in any proceeding in his own behalf or on the behalf of others; nor may any renumeration, position, seniority or other benefits be lost or denied to any such employee who has exercised any right provided by this chapter.
- 5. Procedure for violation. Any employee who believes that he has been discharged, disciplined or otherwise discriminated against by any person in violation of this section may, within 180 days after the violation occurs or, 180 days after the employee first obtains knowledge that a violation did occur, file a complaint with the Director of the Bureau of Labor Standards alleging the discrimination. Upon receipt of the complaint, the director shall cause the investigation to be made as he deems appropriate. If upon investigation, the director determines that this section has been violated, he shall request the Attorney General to bring an action in the appropriate court against the person or persons alleged to have violated this section. In any action, the court shall have jurisdiction to restrain violations this section and to order all appropriate relief, including, but not limited to, civil penalties as set forth in section 1915, hiring, rehiring or reinstatement of the employee in employment together with the payment of any compensation otherwise actually lost as a result of the violation. Within 90 days of the

- 1 receipt of a complaint filed under this section, the 2 director shall notify the complainant and his representative by registered mail of his determination.
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- 4 In addition to, but not in lieu of, the described ac-5 tion in this subsection, any employee may commence 6 any action in any appropriate court of law alleging 7 wrongful discrimination in violation of this chapter.

8 §1911. Trade secrets

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- Exemptions. An employer may withhold the chemical name of a toxic or hazardous substance from the label required by section 1904 and the material safety data sheet required by section 1906, provided that:
- A. The employer can establish that the substance is a trade secret by showing that:
 - (1) It is a catalyst unknown to competitors or other intermediate unknown to competitors; or
 - (2) It cannot be practically and lawfully discovered by analytical techniques, laboratory procedures or other means available to any potential competitor;
 - B. The employer can establish that the substance is not a suspected or recognized carcinogen, teratogen or cause of significant mutagen, irreversible damage to human organs or body systems, as demonstrated through human, animal or other experimental media;
 - C. The toxic or hazardous substance is identified by a generic chemical classification that would provide sufficient information upon which a health professional could render recommendations for adequate safeguards to prevent toxic hazardous exposure to the substance;
- D. All other information on the properties 35 36 effects of the substance required by section 1906 37 is provided;

E. The material safety data sheet indicates
which category of information is being withheld
on trade secret grounds;

- F. The material safety data sheet for the specific substances or substance in question is posted in the work area where the substance is used, manufactured or stored; and
- G. The withheld information is provided on a confidential basis to a treating physician who states in writing, except in an emergency situation, that a patient's health problems may be related to exposure to a toxic or hazardous substance. A statement to this effect with the name and telephone number of the person or persons authorized, on a 24-hour a day basis, to disclose the withheld information shall be included on the materials safety data sheet.
- 2. Supplier withholds information. An employer may withhold information as trade secret, if the employer can establish that the information was withheld by the employer's supplier in accordance with subsection 1.
- 3. Requirements for employers. An employer must provide the chemical name and location of all toxic or hazardous substances, notwithstanding status as a trade secret as provided in subsection 1 or 2, to the fire chief as provided in section 1907. The employer shall designate what information is considered trade secret information to be protected as such by the fire department, pursuant to this section and section 1907. The employer shall also file a statement with the fire chief, when designating that a certain toxic or hazardous substance is trade secret or that its location would reveal trade secret information, that the conditions of subsection 1, paragraphs A to G, are satisfied.
- 4. Disclosure of trade secrets. No officer, employee, agent or contractor of any state or local department, board or commission shall knowingly and intentionally disclose to anyone in any manner unless authorized by law, any trade secret information, except as is required to administer or enforce this

- 1 chapter and perform official duties. Any person who violates this section may be fined, suspended or removed from office or employment in the manner provided by law.
- 5. Disclosure permitted to protect health, safety and property. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the fire chief, or his designated representative, is authorized to disclose trade secret information as designated by an employer when that action is necessary to properly protect health, safety or property in an emergency action.
- 12 §1912. Declaration of toxic and hazardous substances

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- In accordance with section 1903, subsection 1, the Legislature determines substances listed in the latest editions of the following publications as "toxic or hazardous substances:"
- 1. Department of Transporation Hazardous Mate-18 rials Table. Department of Transportation Hazardous 19 Materials Table, 49 Code of Federal Regulations, 20 172.101, and meets one or more of the following cri-21 teria for hazard class:
 - A. Is a combustible substance. For purposes of this section, a combustible substance is any liquid with a flash point above 100° F. and below 200° F.;
 - B. Is a compressed gas. For purposes of this section, a compressed gas is any chemical having in the container an absolute pressure exceeding 40 PSI at 70° F. or having an absolute pressure exceeding 104 PSI at 130° F., or any flammable liquid having a vapor pressure exceeding 40 PSI absolute pressure at 100° F.;
 - C. Is an explosive. For purposes of this section, an explosive is any chemical which is capable of producing an instantaneous release of gas and heat;
- D. Is a flammable substance. For purposes of this section, a flammable substance is any liquid with a flash point of below 100° F., solid heat

- from manufacturing or processing or gas, which at atmospheric temperature and pressure forms a flammable mixture with air when present at a concentration of 13% or less by volume or that forms a range of flammable mixtures with air wider than 12%, regardless of the lower limit;
- 7 E. Is an organic peroxide. For purposes of this section, an organic peroxide is an organic compound that contains the bivalent 0- 0- structure and which is a derivative of hydrogen peroxide where one or more hydrogen atoms have been replaced by organic radicals; or

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- F. Is an oxidizer. For purposes of this section, an oxidizer is a chemical that readily yields oxygen and can stimulate the combustion of organic matter;
- 2. Toxic and hazardous substances of the United States Occupational Health and Safety Act. Listed in the toxic and hazardous substances section of the regulations of the United States Occupational Health and Safety Act labeling standard in the 29 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1910, Subpart Z;
- 3. International Agency for Research on Cancer.
 Listed as a human or animal carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer;
 - 4. United States Environmental Protection Agency. Is designated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the United States Clean Water Act of 1977, Sections 307 and 311, or as hazardous air pollutants pursuant to the United States Clean Air Act, as amended, which have known, adverse human health risks; and
- 5. Pesticides Control Board. Substances listed as hazardous or toxic by the Pesticides Control Board and the Department of Human Services or any other state agency responsible for the health and safety of Maine citizens.
- 38 §1913. Employee education and training

- 1. Educational and training program required. Every employer shall institute an educational and training program for employees routinely exposed to toxic substances. The employer shall assure that all education and training materials and information are provided at no cost to the employee.
 - 2. Time for instituting the program. The educational and training program shall commence prior to initial assignment and shall be repeated at least annually thereafter. Additional instruction must be provided whenever the potential for exposure to toxic substances is altered.
- 3. Program to include. The educational and training program shall include, but may not be limited to, the following:
- A. The location of toxic substances to which the employee may be exposed;
 - B. All information required to be supplied on material safety data sheets pursuant to section 1906, subsection 1; and
- 21 C. The contents of this chapter.

22 §1914. Penalties

- 1. Civil penalty. Any employer who fails to comply with this chapter shall be liable for a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000, in addition to any other damages for which an employer may be liable pursuant to any other provision of law. The Attorney General may bring an action in the appropriate court against any person or persons alleged to have violated this chapter. In any such action, the court shall have jurisdiction to restrain violations of this chapter and to levy appropriate penalties. Any penalty assessed for the violation of any of the provisions of this chapter shall be payable to the Director of the Bureau of Health to be utilized for the purposes of environmental health.
- 2. Criminal penalty. Any person who willfully and intentionally violates this chapter is, for a first offense, guilty of a Class E crime and is, for a subsequent offense, guilty of a Class D crime.

2	The surcharge of 1¢ per pound or gallon, not to
3	exceed a maximum of \$10,000, will be levied upon
4	employers using hazardous or toxic substances, as de-
5	fined in section 1912, subsections 1 to 5, in order
6	to fund this chapter. The fund will be administered
7	by the Department of Human Services, Bureau of
8	Health.
9	Sec. 3. Effective date. Sections 1901 to 1915
10	shall take effect 90 days after the Legislature ad-
11	journs, except that section 1916 shall take effect
12	January 1, 1984.
13	STATEMENT OF FACT
14	The purpose of this bill is reflected in Title
15	26, section 1901, which identifies the scope and
16	applications.

1 §1915. Funding