

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1471

6 H.P. 1113

House of Representatives, April 14, 1983

7 Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to
8 Joint Rule 24.

9 On Motion of Representative Carter of Winslow, referred to the
10 Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence
and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Ridley of Shapleigh.

11 Cosponsors: Senator Kany of Kennebec and Representative Brown of
Livermore Falls.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT to Provide Continued Funding for
18 the Determination of Ground Water Quality in
19 the State's Sand and Gravel Aquifers.
20

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

23 38 MRSa §403 is enacted to read:

24 §403. Gound water quality

25 1. Legislative intent. The Legislature finds
26 that sand and gravel aquifers are important public
27 and private resources for drinking water supplies and
28 other industrial, commercial and agricultural uses.
29 The ground water in these formations is particularly
30 susceptible to contamination by pollutants and, once
31 polluted, may not recover for hundreds of years. It
32 is the intent of the Legislature that information be
33 developed which shall determine the degree that the

1 state's sand and gravel aquifers have been contami-
2 nated and shall provide a base of knowledge from
3 which decisions may be made to protect the aquifers.

4 2. Determination of ground water quality. The
5 Department of Environmental Protection and the
6 Department of Conservation shall delineate the pri-
7 mary recharge areas for all sand and gravel aquifers
8 capable of yielding more than 10 gallons per minute.
9 Utilizing existing water supply information and well
10 drilling logs, the Department of Environmental Pro-
11 tection and the Department of Conservation shall
12 determine depth to bedrock, depth to water table,
13 surficial material stratigraphy and generalized
14 ground water flow directions of the aquifers. The
15 Department of Environmental Protection and the
16 Department of Conservation shall also determine the
17 extent and direction of contamination plumes orig-
18 inating from distinct sources within each area stud-
19 ied. The primary recharge areas, flow directions and
20 contamination plumes are to be shown on maps of a
21 scale of 1:50,000.

22 STATEMENT OF FACT

23 This bill will continue a sand and gravel aquifer
24 program presently being undertaken by the Department
25 of Environmental Protection and the Department of
26 Conservation. The program has as its purposes:
27 Delineation of the primary recharge areas of the sand
28 and gravel aquifers; determination of generalized
29 ground water flow directions within the aquifers; and
30 determination of the extent and direction of contami-
31 nation plumes from contamination sources within the
32 aquifers. To date, utilizing federal grants, this
33 information has been generated for approximately 2/5
34 of the state's sand and gravel systems. With the
35 cessation of federal funding for this program, the
36 General Fund appropriation is critical if there is to
37 be a comprehensive data base for ground water manage-
38 ment within the State. It is expected that most of
39 the dollars will be utilized by the Maine Geological
40 Survey, of the Department of Conservation during the
41 data collection phase of the project with the remain-
42 der being utilized by the Department of Environmental
43 Protection during the data analysis phase.

1 Funds to carry out the purposes of this Act will
2 be appropriated from the General Fund within the Part
3 II Budget.

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