

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 184

H.P. 143 House of Representatives, February 3, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative HOLLOWAY of Edgecomb.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 AN ACT Relating to the Term of Air Emission
2 Licenses.
3

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

6 38 MRSA §590, as amended by PL 1985, c. 745, §§1
7 and 2, is further amended by adding at the end a new
8 paragraph to read:

9 Licenses shall be issued by the board for terms
10 of 5 years.

11 STATEMENT OF FACT

1 Under current practice, the Department of Envi-
2 ronmental Protection issues air licenses for 2 years.
3 The Environmental Protection Agency has indicated
4 that most states in the Environmental Protection
5 Agency Region I either have a much longer term or no
6 term at all. The present practice of having licenses
7 expire after 2 years has resulted in licensees oper-
8 ating without current licenses for as long as 7
9 years. The small benefits to be gained by allowing
10 an agency to theoretically look at a license every 2
11 years is far outweighed by the negative consequences
12 of most companies in the State having expired li-
13 censes, unnecessary diversion of resources seeking to
14 relicense major facilities every 2 years and the in-
15 ability to offer licenses of a duration competitive
16 with other states in the region. Since waste dis-
17 charge licenses issued by the Department of Environ-
18 mental Protection are typically for a 5-year period,
19 this bill will align air and water licensing.

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