

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 265

H.P. 213 House of Representatives, February 5, 1987 Reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk Presented by Representative MITCHELL of Freeport. Cosponsored by Representatives COLES of Harpswell and MILLS of Bethel.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Establish the Water Well Information Law.

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA c. 111 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 111

WATER WELL DRILLERS

9 §11321. Definitions

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10As used used in this chapter, unless the context11indicates otherwise, the following terms have the12following meanings.

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1	1. Well. "Well" means any hole drilled by any
2	method for the purpose of extracting water from below
3	the ground.
4	2. Well drilling contractor. "Well drilling
5	contractor" means any person, company, firm, partner-
6	ship or corporation engaged in the business of
7	drilled water well construction.
8	§11322. Exclusions
9	Wells for which data reports are already required
10	by any state agency are exempt from the reporting re-
11	quirements of this chapter.
12	§11323. Water well information documentation; well
13	completion reports submitted according to
14	this section
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 24 25 26 27	1. Well completion reports. Within 45 days af- ter completion of any well or dry hole, or the en- larging or deepening of an existing well, a well drilling contractor shall submit a report to the Maine Geological Survey, on forms designed and pro- vided by the Maine Geological Survey. The report shall contain such information as may be required by the Maine Geological Survey, including, but not lim- ited to, location, construction and ownership of the well, materials encountered and well yield. The Maine Geological Survey may request additional information pertaining to collecting of scientific data related to natural resources.
28	2. Violation. Any well drilling contractor who
29	has engaged in the drilling of water wells but who
30	has not submitted well completion reports on a timely
31	basis, as required by this chapter shall be in viola-
32	tion of this chapter.
33	§11324. Compliance with other laws and rules
34	Notwithstanding the provisions set forth in this
35	chapter, all wells are to be constructed and main-
36	tained in accordance with all other laws and rules in
37	effect.

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§11325. Forfeiture

Any person, company, firm, partnership or corporation, who willfully violates any standard or provision of this chapter, commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture of not more than \$500 may be adjudged. In addition to other civil remedies, the court may issue an injunction.

8 Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are 9 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the 10 purposes of this Act.

1987-88

12 CONSERVATION, DEPARTMENT OF

13Maine Geological Survey14All Other

\$26,000

STATEMENT OF FACT

Drilled wells supply an ever-increasing number of individual homes, municipalities and commercial establishments with high quality water. The purpose of this bill is to secure ground water and geologic information for the direct use of the Maine Geological Survey in its programs of investigation throughout the State and indirect use of numerous government agencies, groups and individuals involved with the and protection of ground water and related natuuse ral resources. This information is vital to the State's ground water protection effort and to the federally mandated Wellhead Protection Program. The bill does not include registration of well drilling contractors nor does it provide for regulation of water well construction standards. The bill is a recommendation of the Ground Water Standing Committee and is endorsed by the Land and Water Resources Council.

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