

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 2371

H.P. 1728 House of Representatives, February 26, 1988

Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and
Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative MITCHELL of Freeport.

Cosponsored by Representatives COLES of Harpswell, LOOK
of Jonesboro and Senator CAHILL of Sagadahoc.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 **AN ACT to Appropriate Funds to Conduct a**
2 **Marine Pollution Monitoring Program.**
3

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

6 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA c. 3, art. 1-E is enacted to**
7 **read:**

8 ARTICLE 1-E

1 MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAM

2 §410-F. Marine Environmental Monitoring Program

3 The Department of Environmental Protection in
4 cooperation with the Department of Marine Resources
5 shall establish a Marine Environmental Monitoring
6 Program. The purpose of this program shall be to
7 conduct a study of the extent and effect of industrial
8 contaminants and pollutants on marine and estuarine
9 ecosystems and to determine compliance and attainment
10 of water quality standards under article 4-A. This
11 study shall include, but not be limited to:

12 1. Sources. The sources, fates and biological
13 availability of these contaminants;

14 2. Impact. The impact of these contaminants on
15 marine and estuarine biota; and

16 3. Assessment. An assessment of the condition of
17 marine and estuarine habitats.

18 §410-G. Report required

19 The Department of Environmental Protection, in
20 cooperation with the Department of Marine Resources,
21 shall report to the joint standing committee of the
22 Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and
23 natural resources and the joint standing committee of
24 the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine
25 resources during the First Regular Session of each
26 Legislature. The report shall be due on or before
27 March 15th. The report shall address the problems or
28 potential problems of marine and estuarine resources
29 caused by industrial contaminants. The department
30 also shall prescribe remedial steps to address
31 problems identified in the report.

32 Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are
33 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the
34 purposes of this Act.

1988-89

2	<u>ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,</u>	
3	<u>DEPARTMENT OF</u>	
4	Water Quality Control	
5	Positions	(1)
6	Personal Services	\$29,226
7	All Other	50,000
8	Capital Expenditures	5,000
9		
10	Total	<u>\$84,226</u>
11	Provides funds for a	
12	Biologist II position,	
13	contractual services,	
14	miscellaneous sampling	
15	apparatus and general	
16	operating expenses to	
17	assist in the proposed	
18	Marine Environmental	
19	Monitoring Program.	
20	Administration - Environmental Protection	
21	All Other	50,000
22	Provides funds for	
23	laboratory analysis to	
24	be conducted by the	
25	department.	
26		
27	TOTAL	<u>\$134,226</u>

28 STATEMENT OF FACT

29 The marine and estuarine waters along the coast of
30 Maine host a wide diversity of organisms of economic
31 and biological importance. There is, however,
32 increasing evidence that chemical contamination may be

1 affecting marine and estuarine life. National
2 publicity has begun to erode public confidence in the
3 quality and safety of Maine's marine waters and their
4 products. Current sampling and testing programs
5 undertaken by state agencies are not sufficient either
6 to assess the risk of contaminants present in our
7 waters or track any potentially harmful trends.

8 This bill establishes a Marine Environmental
9 Monitoring Program within the Department of
10 Environmental Protection to monitor and assess the
11 problem along our coast. The bill requires the
12 program to report to the Legislature every other year
13 on the extent of the problem and to recommend any
14 remedial action that should be undertaken.

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