

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 827

H.P. 603

House of Representatives, March 17, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative CARTER of Winslow.

Cosponsored by Representative MICHAUD of East Millinocket, Representative CHONKO of Topsham and Senator KANY of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**An Act to Authorize the Department of Corrections to Establish a
Solid Waste Recycling Program.**



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

3 **34-A M RSA §3035-A** is enacted to read:

5 **§3035-A Solid waste recycling program**

7 1. Feasibility analysis. The commissioner shall study the
9 feasibility of establishing a prison program to train and employ
11 inmates in the salvaging and recycling of solid waste. The term
13 "salvaging" means the reclaiming of paper, glass, metals, wood
15 and other materials commonly found in solid waste. The term
17 "recycling" means the converting of salvaged waste into useful
19 products. The commissioner shall consult with the Department of
21 Economic and Community Development, Office of Waste Recycling and
Reduction. The commissioner shall coordinate the study with
existing state recycling efforts including those conducted at the
Augusta Mental Health Institute. The commissioner shall report
the results of this study to the joint standing committees of the
Legislature with jurisdiction over natural resource matters and
over appropriation and financial affair matters on or before
January 1, 1990.

23 2. Study parameters. The commissioner shall consider the
25 following issues as part of the study in addition to any other
relevant topics:

27 A. The feasibility of salvaging and recycling solid waste
29 generated by the department; and

31 B. The feasibility of providing salvaging and recycling
33 services on a contract basis to municipalities and private
entities in the general vicinity of state-operated
correctional facilities.

35
37 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

39 The purpose of this bill is to direct the Department of
41 Corrections to examine the feasibility of establishing recycling
43 facilities, employing inmates, which could recycle waste
45 generated by correctional facilities and by municipalities or
47 private businesses in the vicinity of correctional facilities.
49 The bill directs the commissioner to coordinate the study effort
 with other state recycling programs including the Growth through
 Rehabilitation and Occupational Workshop program, referred to as
 G.R.O.W. Industries, at the Augusta Mental Health Institute. The
 state of California has been examining this possibility for the
 past several years. California shortly expects the results of
 its initial feasibility analysis and will begin screening its
 facilities for an appropriate site this year.