

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

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Legislative Document

No. 1482

H.P. 1060

House of Representatives, May 4, 1989

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative STROUT of Windham.

Cosponsored by Representative GREENLAW of Standish, Representative SIMPSON of Casco and Senator TITCOMB of Cumberland.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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An Act to Prohibit Dumping Waste on Sebago Lake.

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

3 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7799-A is enacted to read:

5 §7799-A. Marine toilet seals

7 No person may operate a watercraft with a marine toilet on  
9 Sebago Lake without a seal on the holding tank of the marine  
11 toilet.

13 1. Authorized dumping stations. Authorized dumping  
15 stations shall provide and affix seals on marine toilet holding  
17 tanks and shall remove seals and replace seals when emptying the  
19 holding tank. Only seals obtained from an authorized dumping  
21 station shall be accepted as being in accordance with this  
23 section.

25 2. Violation. Removal or damage of a seal by any person,  
27 except by an employee of an authorized dumping station as an  
29 assigned task, shall be a civil violation subject to a fine of  
31 not less than \$500. The owner of a watercraft shall be liable  
33 for having an intact seal affixed to a holding tank.

35 3. Rules. The commissioner shall adopt rules providing for  
37 the administration of this section, including, but not limited  
39 to, the designation and operation of authorized dumping stations.

41 Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §349, sub-§7 is enacted to read:

43 7. Watercraft operation prohibited. Any person found in  
45 violation of section 423 while operating a watercraft on Sebago  
47 Lake may not place or operate a watercraft on any inland water of  
49 the State for a period of 2 years extending from the date of  
51 conviction. Each day of watercraft operation in violation of  
53 this subsection shall be a separate violation.

55 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

57 The discharge of sewage by boaters into Sebago Lake  
59 continues to threaten the drinking water supply for thousands of  
61 Maine citizens. Section 1 of this bill establishes a program for  
63 sealing holding tanks except during pump-out at authorized  
65 dumping stations. Section 2 of the bill stiffens the penalties  
67 for discharging waste from a watercraft into Sebago Lake by  
69 prohibiting the watercraft operator from placing or operating a  
71 watercraft on inland waters for 2 years.