

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

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Legislative Document

No. 1584

H.P. 1141

House of Representatives, May 9, 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 HOLT of Bath.

Cosponsored by Senator TITCOMB of Cumberland, Representative SIMPSON of Casco and Representative GOULD of Greenville.

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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 Protect the People of Maine from Exposure to Radioactive Waste.

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

3 Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1451, sub-§§12 to 15, as enacted by PL 1983,  
c. 381, §9, are amended to read:

5 12. Low-level radioactive waste disposal facility.  
7 "Low-level radioactive waste disposal facility" means a facility  
9 for the isolation of low-level radioactive waste and other  
radioactive waste from the biosphere inhabited by people and  
their food chains.

11 13. Low-level radioactive waste generator. "Low-level  
13 radioactive waste generator" means a person who produces or  
15 processes low-level or other radioactive waste, whether or not  
that waste is shipped off site.

17 14. Low-level radioactive waste licensee or low-level waste  
19 licensee. "Low-level radioactive waste licensee" or "low-level  
21 waste licensee" means any person licensed by the State or Federal  
Government to generate, treat, store or dispose of low-level or  
other radioactive waste.

23 15. Low-level radioactive waste storage facility.  
25 "Low-level radioactive waste storage facility" means any facility  
27 for storage of low-level or other radioactive waste, except for  
temporary on-site storage prior to disposal.

29 Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §1451, sub-§23 is enacted to read:

31 23. Other radioactive waste. "Other radioactive waste"  
means any radioactive material that is not high-level radioactive  
waste or low-level radioactive waste, whether or not classified  
by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission as very  
low-level radioactive waste, as below regulatory concern or  
otherwise.

37 Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §1483 is enacted to read:

39 §1483. Prohibition on disposal or storage of other radioactive  
waste

41 No other radioactive waste may be stored or disposed of at  
any place or facility within the State, except at a low-level  
radioactive waste storage or disposal facility approved and  
regulated in accordance with this Title.

47 STATEMENT OF FACT

49 This bill prohibits the storage or disposal of any  
51 radioactive waste, deregulated or otherwise, at any solid, liquid  
or hazardous waste facilities except at licensed low-level  
53 radioactive waste facilities in the State.

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The United States Congress and the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission have approved the concept of deregulating some radioactive waste to a new status of "Below Regulatory Concern." This waste will be considered to be nonradioactive and may go to landfills, sewers, incinerators or other facilities for solid, liquid or hazardous waste, which were neither designed or intended to take radioactive waste.

It has been estimated that more than 30% of the volume of what is currently considered "low-level" radioactive waste could be deregulated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.