MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1738

S.P. 645

In Senate, June 12, 1989

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

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LUDWIG of Aroostook.

Cosponsored by Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake, Senator PERKINS of Hancock and Representative MACOMBER of South Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Amend the Maine Coastal and Inland Surface Oil Clean-up Fund to Provide for Adequate Resources to Respond to a Major Coastal Oil Spill.



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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §551, first ¶, as amended by PL 1985, c. 496, Pt. A, §13, is further amended to read:

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The Maine Coastal and Inland Surface Oil Clean-up Fund is established to be used by the department as a nonlapsing, revolving fund for carrying out the purposes of this subchapter. The fund shall be limited to $$4_7500_7000$ \$6,000,000, the sum of which shall include all funds credited under this section and any funds loaned to the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund established pursuant to subchapter II-B. The Department of Environmental Protection shall collect fees in accordance with subsection 4. To fund shall be credited all license fees, penalties, reimbursements and other fees charges and related to subchapter, and to this fund shall be charged any and all expenses of the department related to this subchapter, including administrative expenses, costs of removal of discharges of pollutants, restoration of water supplies and 3rd party damages covered by this subchapter.

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Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §551, sub-§4, ¶A, as amended by PL 1985, c. 496, Pt. A, §13, is further amended to read:

A. License fees shall be determined on the basis of 1-1/2¢ 3¢ per barrel of unrefined crude oil, --1¢-per-barrel-ofgaseline and 1/2¢ 3¢ per barrel of all other refined oil, petroleum products and their by-products, including #6 fuel oil, #2 fuel oil, kerosene, gasoline, jet fuel and diesel fuel, transferred by the licensee during the licensing period and shall be paid monthly by the licensee on the basis of records certified to the department. License fees shall be paid to the department and upon receipt by it credited to the Maine Coastal and Inland Surface Oil Clean-up Fund.

37 Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §551, sub-§4, ¶D, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 750, §3, is further amended to read:

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D. Any person who is required to register with the department pursuant to section 545-B and who transports oil in Maine shall pay fees, which shall be determined on the basis of one-cent-per-barrel-of-gasoline and--1/2¢ 3¢ per barrel of for all other refined oil, including #6 fuel oil, #2 fuel oil, kerosene, gasoline, jet fuel, diesel fuel and liquid asphalt transported by the registrant during the period of registration. Fees shall be paid monthly by the registrant on the basis of records certified to the department. Fees shall be paid to the department and upon receipt by it credited to the Maine and Inland Surface Coastal 0ilClean-up Fund. registrant shall make available to the department and its

authorized representatives all documents relating to the oil transported by the registrant during the period of registration. This paragraph shall not apply to waste oil which is transported into Maine in any motor vehicle which has a valid license issued by the department for the transportation of waste oil pursuant to section 1319-O and which is subject to fees established under section 1319-I.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Maine Coastal and Inland Surface Oil Clean-up Fund, formerly the Maine Coastal Protection Fund, was established in 1969, with a fund ceiling of \$4,000,000. The purpose of the fund is to provide dollars for Department of Environmental Protection personnel and equipment which are to be used in the abatement of oil pollution, and to promptly compensate persons damaged by oil spills. The fund ceiling has been altered over the years, with the cap now established at \$4,500,000. Over the last 20 years the cost of all clean ups and 3rd-party compensations have risen dramatically. This bill raises the ceiling of the fund to \$6,000,000.

This bill would increase the fees assessed upon each barrel of oil imported into Maine. The fee changes would require the payment of 3¢ per barrel for crude oil, gasoline and all other refined products. At present importation levels, the fund should reach \$6,000,000 in approximately 4 years.