

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1970

(Filing No. H-1068)

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
114TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 1418, L.D. 1970, Bill, "An Act to Regain Full Use of Maine Waters through the Establishment of Color Standards"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §464, sub-§4, ¶A-1 is enacted to read:

A-1. The requirements with respect to color, odor and foam from kraft pulp mills are as follows.

(1) A kraft pulp mill in this State may not increase the color of any water body by more than 275 pounds of color per air dried ton of unbleached pulp processed, measured on a calendar quarterly basis.

(2) A kraft pulp mill in this State is exempt from meeting the limitations set forth in subparagraph (1), if the individual kraft pulp mill waste discharge does not increase the color of any water body by more than 27 color units.

(3) All existing kraft pulp mill discharges must comply with subparagraph (1) or (2), by July 1, 1995. The commissioner may establish a schedule for compliance with the provisions of this paragraph for wastewater discharges licensed and in existence prior to June 1, 1990. The schedules must be short and the commissioner may not establish a schedule that extends beyond July 1, 1997. The commissioner may establish

2 interim and final dates for compliance. The  
3 commissioner shall base the schedule on a consideration  
4 of:

5 (a) The technological feasibility and economic  
6 impact of the steps necessary for compliance; and

7 (b) The impact of the discharge on the existing  
8 and designated uses of the receiving waters.

9 (4) Any kraft pulp mill in this State meeting the  
10 conditions of this paragraph meets the best practicable  
11 treatment for color, odor and foam pollution control  
12 and is not in violation of any water quality  
13 requirements of the State for those pollutants.

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16 **Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §466, sub-§§2-A and 9-C are enacted to read:**

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18 **2-A. Color unit.** "Color unit" means the measure of water  
19 color derived from comparison with a standard measure prepared  
20 according to the specifications adopted by the United States  
21 Environmental Protection Agency contained in the current edition  
22 of "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater."

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24 **9-C. Pounds per ton as unit of measure.** "Pounds per ton"  
25 means the unit for measurement of color in the discharge from the  
26 production of wood pulp. The numerator of this unit is the  
27 product of the number of color units multiplied by 8.34  
28 multiplied by the volume of effluent discharged measured in  
29 millions of gallons. The denominator of this unit is measured in  
30 tons of actual production of unbleached wood pulp as measured on  
31 an air dried basis provided that this data are a reasonable  
32 measure of actual production.

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36 **FISCAL NOTE**

37 It is anticipated that any costs associated with this  
38 legislation would be absorbed by the Department of Environmental  
39 Protection utilizing existing resources.'

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42 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

43 The purpose of this amendment is to ensure that the  
44 designated uses of the State's waters are not impacted by the  
45 discharge of color from Maine kraft pulp mills. The amendment  
46 establishes a maximum color discharge for Maine kraft pulp mills  
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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 1418, L.D. 1970

2 based on pounds of color discharged. Because some discharges,  
despite reasonable efforts, may not be able to meet a pounds of  
4 color standard, the amendment also establishes an alternate  
control technology by establishing color unit standards for  
6 receiving waters. The amendment establishes July 1, 1995, as the  
deadline for compliance with the new standard and provides for  
8 conditional extensions for compliance until July 1, 1997.

Reported by Report B of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
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