

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 667

H.P. 473

House of Representatives, February 19, 1991

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 MICHAUD of East Millinocket.

Cosponsored by Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake, Representative LORD of Waterboro and President PRAY of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

**An Act to Require the Department of Environmental Protection to Seek
Authority to Administer the Provisions of the Federal Water Pollution
Control Act.**



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

2
38 MRSA §342, sub-§13 is enacted to read:

4
5 13. State assumption of federal water pollution control
6 authority. The commissioner shall prepare a program submission
7 pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 123 for the
8 purpose of obtaining approval to administer a state National
9 Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program. The commissioner
10 shall coordinate with the Attorney General's office in preparing
11 and completing the program submission. The program submission
12 must be filed with the federal Environmental Protection Agency no
13 later than December 31, 1991.

14
15 STATEMENT OF FACT

16
17 Approximately 40 states have applied for and have received
18 authority to issue permits pursuant to the National Pollutant
19 Discharge Elimination System, or NPDES, program under the Federal
20 Water Pollution Act. If this State obtains NPDES authority, the
21 Department of Environmental Protection would issue state and
22 NPDES wastewater discharge licenses. Currently, wastewater
23 dischargers must obtain a license from the State and an NPDES
24 permit from the federal Environmental Protection Agency.
25 Consolidating the 2 licensing processes within the Department of
26 Environmental Protection will improve the efficiency of the
27 wastewater licensing processes for facilities in the State.
28