

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1992

Legislative Document

No. 2407

H.P. 1721

House of Representatives, March 9, 1992

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.
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 GOULD of Greenville.

Cosponsored by Senator LUDWIG of Aroostook, Senator ESTY of Cumberland and
Representative LORD of Waterboro.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**An Act to Amend the Date for Compliance with the State's River Color
Standards.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)



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

4 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §414-C, sub-§4,** as enacted by PL 1989, c. 864,
§1, is amended to read:

6 **4. Schedule of compliance.** No standard for color pollution
control established under subsection 2, paragraph A or subsection
8 3 applies prior to July 1, 1993. The commissioner may establish
a schedule for compliance with those provisions. The schedules
10 must be as short as practicable and the commissioner may not
establish a schedule that extends beyond July 1, 1995. The
12 commissioner may establish interim and final dates for
compliance. The commissioner shall base the schedules on a
14 consideration of:

16 A. The technological feasibility, availability of equipment
and economic impact of the steps necessary for compliance;
18 and

20 B. The impact of the discharge on the existing and
designated uses of the receiving waters.

22 Notwithstanding the dates specified in this subsection, deadlines
24 for compliance with the standards for color pollution control
established under subsection 2, paragraph A or subsection 3 must
26 be extended to be consistent with deadlines established by the
federal Environmental Protection Agency for compliance with
28 revisions to existing effluent limitation guidelines for the
pulp, paper and paperboard industry under the federal Clean Water
30 Act, 33 United States Code, Section 1314(m).

32 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

34 In 1990, Maine enacted standards for discharges of color
36 from pulp and paper mills. The law requires existing mills to
meet the standards as early as practicable after July 1, 1993 and
38 before July 1, 1995.

40 The federal Environmental Protection Agency has announced
its intention to review and revise its existing discharge
42 limitations guidelines for pulp and paper mills. That agency
anticipates promulgation of the revisions in 1995.

44 This bill requires that the compliance date for new state
46 color standards be extended to coincide with the compliance
deadlines for related pollutants under the revised federal
48 discharge limitations guidelines. The extension is necessary to
ensure that the equipment that mills may be required to install

2 to meet the revised federal discharge limitations guidelines is
consistent with the equipment that must be installed to meet the
state color standards. This extension eliminates the possibility
4 of requiring Maine mills to spend funds first to meet the state
color standards and then to meet the federal limitations.