

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

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Legislative Document

No. 866

H.P. 635

House of Representatives, March 12, 1993

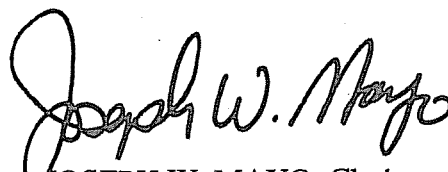
**An Act to Allow the State to Enter into an Agreement with the State of  
South Carolina Concerning the Disposal of Low-level Radioactive Waste.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

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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.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BARTH of Bethel.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: ANDERSON of Woodland, GOULD of Greenville,  
JACQUES of Waterville, LORD of Waterboro, MARSH of West Gardiner, REED of Dexter,  
Senators: CIANCHETTE of Somerset, LUDWIG of Aroostook.

2           **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not  
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted  
as emergencies; and

4  
6           **Whereas,** the State is currently engaged in negotiations with  
the State of South Carolina for an agreement to allow the  
transfer of low-level radioactive waste to that state on a  
8 short-term basis; and

10           **Whereas,** that agreement needs to be concluded as soon as  
possible and as voter ratification of that agreement would delay  
12 finalization of such an agreement and as that delay may preclude  
such an agreement entirely; and

14           **Whereas,** the ratification provisions of current law were  
16 enacted in contemplation of voter ratification of a long-term  
agreement and are inappropriate for short-term agreements; and

18           **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts  
20 create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of  
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately  
22 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and  
safety; now, therefore,

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

26                 **Sec. 1. 38 MRS**A §1474, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 705,  
28 §3, is amended to read:

30                 **2. Ratification.** Any compact or agreement with any other  
state or states, except for a compact or agreement with the State  
32 of South Carolina, or the Federal Government for low-level waste  
disposal must be ratified by legislative act and, in accordance  
34 with subchapter IV, by the voters of the State.

36                 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.  
38

40                                 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

42                 This bill exempts compacts or agreements made with the State  
of South Carolina for the storage of low-level radioactive waste  
44 from the statewide ratification provisions of current law. This  
exemption will allow short-term interim agreements with that  
46 state to be finalized.