

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
116TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 816, L.D. 1102, Bill, "An Act Related to Suppliers of Compressed Air for Breathing"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §1583-A is enacted to read:

§1583-A. Inspections

1. Satisfactory inspection. To be eligible for an initial or renewal license, a supplier of compressed air must provide certification from a tester of compressed air based on an inspection in the 6 months prior to application that the compressor equipment, air quality and compressor filling procedures are in compliance with rules of the department.

2. Unsatisfactory inspection. If any aspect of the supplier operation fails to meet department standards, the tester of compressed air shall notify the department of the nature of the deficiencies. The department shall evaluate the deficiencies and determine appropriate licensing action.

If the air provided by a supplier of compressed air exceeds the maximum permissible amount of any contaminant, the tester of compressed air shall notify the supplier that operations must cease and the supplier shall immediately cease operation until the reason is determined, corrections made and a retest conducted to confirm that the contaminant no longer exceeds the maximum permissible amount. The department shall take action to see that the supplier is not operating while this condition exists.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the statement of fact the following:

FISCAL NOTE

The Department of Human Services will incur some minor additional costs to evaluate any deficiency identified by a tester of compressed air and to see that suppliers do not operate until the identified deficiency is corrected. The department can absorb these costs utilizing existing budgeted resources.

STATEMENT OF FACT

State law currently requires suppliers of compressed air for breathing to be licensed. By rule, these suppliers are required to have their equipment checked yearly by the Department of Human Services.

The bill requires a yearly inspection by a private testing company as a qualification for yearly licensing. The amendment requires that the testing company report the results of unsatisfactory tests to the department and that, in the case of compressed air exceeding the permissible level of contaminant, the supplier be required to shut down until this defect is corrected.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

Reported by the Committee on Business Legislation
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