

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1994

Legislative Document

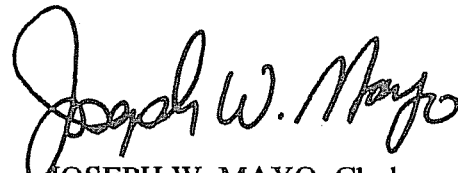
No. 2009

H.P. 1484

House of Representatives, April 8, 1994

An Act Concerning Plastic Holding Devices.

Reported by Representative MARTIN from the Joint Standing Committee on Energy and Natural Resources pursuant to Public Law 1993, chapter 341, section 7.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

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

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §18, sub-§2-B is enacted to read:

2-B. Vending machines; recycling connectors. Distributors of products connected by plastic holding devices shall ensure that any plastic holding devices removed from those products for the purpose of loading the products into a vending machine are collected and are either recycled by the distributor or delivered by the distributor to a person engaged in recycling plastics.

Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §18, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 341, §2, is amended to read:

3. **Repeal.** This section is repealed 90 days after the adjournment of the Second Regular Session of the ~~116th~~ 117th Legislature.

Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §18-A, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 341, §3, is amended to read:

4. **Effective date.** This section takes effect 90 days after the adjournment of the Second Regular Session of the ~~116th~~ 117th Legislature.

Sec. 4. **Report.** By February 1, 1996, persons who distribute in the State plastic holding devices or products that are connected by plastic holding devices shall report to the Maine Waste Management Agency the number of plastic holding devices distributed by those persons in the State between the effective date of this Act and December 31, 1995. That report must also include the number of those plastic holding devices that was collected and recycled after removal from products sold in vending machines. By March 1, 1996, the Maine Waste Management Agency shall analyze that data and submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and natural resource matters on the total number of plastic holding devices distributed in the State between the effective date of this Act and December 31, 1995, the percent of that total that was collected and recycled after removal from products sold in vending machines and the agency's estimate of the percent of that total that was recycled through voluntary programs, the percent that was reused and the percent that was distributed but was not otherwise reported as collected or recycled. In preparing its report, the agency shall consult with interested parties, including the Maine Grocers Association and the Maine Municipal Association.

Sec. 5. Committee legislation authorized. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and natural resource matters may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 117th Legislature on any matter pertaining to plastic holding devices.

FISCAL NOTE

The Maine Waste Management Agency will incur some minor additional costs to analyze certain data and to submit a required report to the Legislature. These costs can be absorbed within the agency's existing budgeted resources.

The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources may realize some minor savings from the delayed implementation of the department's enforcement responsibilities pertaining to the ban on the sale of products connected by plastic holding devices.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill is reported unanimously by the Joint Standing Committee on Energy and Natural Resources pursuant to Public Law 1993, chapter 341, section 7.

This bill postpones for 2 years the effective date on the ban on the sale of products connected by plastic holding devices. The bill also requires distributors of products connected by plastic holding devices that are sold in vending machines to collect the plastic holding devices removed from those products and ensure that they are collected and recycled. The bill also requires that distributors of plastic holding devices or products connected by plastic holding devices report to the Maine Waste Management Agency by February 1, 1996 on the number of devices distributed in the State and the number collected and recycled after removal from products sold in vending machines. The agency is required to analyze that data and report statewide totals to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy and Natural Resources by April 1, 1996.

The bill also authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Energy and Natural Resources to report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 117th Legislature on any matter pertaining to plastic holding devices.