

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 922

H.P. 671

House of Representatives, March 21, 1995

An Act to Establish an Emissions Reduction Credit Trading Program.

Reference to the Committee on Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GOULD of Greenville.
Cosponsored by Senator: LORD of York.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §608-B** is enacted to read:

6 **§608-B. Emissions reduction credit trading program**

8 The department shall adopt rules, in accordance with Title
10 5, chapter 375, establishing an emissions reduction credit
12 trading program that addresses the offset requirements for new
14 major sources and major modifications of nonattainment pollutants
16 as set forth in Part D of the federal Clean Air Act, 42 United
18 States Code, Section 7501 et seq. The department's program must
20 provide sources in the State with the maximum ability and
22 flexibility to create, preserve and use emission reduction
24 credits for offsets allowed under the federal Clean Air Act and
26 the United States Environmental Protection Agency rules.

18 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

20 **20**
22 Under the federal Clean Air Act, a company that proposes to
24 site a major new source or expand an existing source in an ozone
26 nonattainment area must obtain offsets of volatile organic
28 compounds and nitrogen oxide. Offsets are reductions in existing
emissions from either the plant being expanded or another plant
in the area. Because this State is part of the ozone transport
region, this offset requirement applies statewide.

30 The purpose of this bill is to maximize the ability of this
32 State to continue to attract capital investment into the State.
34 This bill directs the Department of Environmental Protection to
develop rules that provide sources in the State with the maximum
ability and flexibility to create, preserve and use emission
reduction credits for offsets as allowed under federal law.