

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

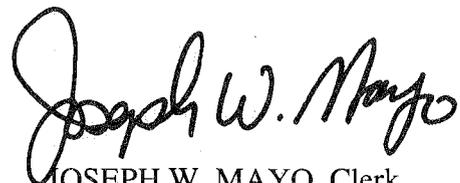
No. 690

H.P. 499

House of Representatives, February 4, 1997

**An Act to Require That Safety Features Be Added to Hot Water Heaters
and Furnaces Powered by Natural Gas.**

Reference to the Committee on Business and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative PLOWMAN of Hampden.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CAMPBELL of Holden, LOVETT of Scarborough,
MADORE of Augusta.

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

2
3 Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2445-A is enacted to read:

4 §2445-A. Platforms for certain gas appliances

6
7 1. Platform required. A water heater or furnace that
8 operates using natural gas that is installed in a residence on or
9 after the effective date of this section must be installed on a
10 platform that measures at least 10 inches in height.

12 2. Seller responsibility. A person who sells a water
13 heater or furnace that operates using natural gas shall condition
14 the sale upon the contemporaneous sale of the platform required
15 under subsection 1 unless the homeowner in writing indicates that
16 the residence in which the appliance will be installed already
17 has a platform.

18
19 3. Installer responsibility. Any person who is licensed
20 pursuant to Title 32, chapter 730 who installs a water heater or
21 furnace that operates using natural gas in a residence shall
22 ensure that the appliance is installed on a platform as required
23 under subsection 1. An installer may not attach the tag as
24 required under Title 32, section 14809 unless the appliance is
25 installed on the platform.

26
27 4. Enforcement. A violation of subsection 2 or 3 is
28 punishable by a fine of not more than \$100 or by imprisonment for
29 not more than 90 days, or by both.

30
31 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §14809**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 398, §4, is
32 amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

33 An installer of a water heater or furnace that operates
34 using natural gas is subject to Title 25, section 2445-A.

35
36
37 **SUMMARY**

38
39
40 This bill requires that sellers or installers of water
41 heaters or furnaces that operate using natural gas for use in
42 residences must ensure that those appliances are sold with and
43 installed upon platforms that are at least 10 inches off the
44 floor.