

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1998

Legislative Document

No. 2103

S.P. 776

In Senate, January 20, 1998

**An Act to Improve the Efficiency of the Maine Public Drinking Water
Control Program.**

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule
203.

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President LAWRENCE of York.
Cosponsored by Representative DONNELLY of Presque Isle and
Senators: HARRIMAN of Cumberland, PARADIS of Aroostook, Representatives:
COLWELL of Gardiner, LOVETT of Scarborough, SHIAH of Bowdoinham.

2 in this Part as the "program," for the purposes outlined in
3 section 2 of this Part. The auditor selected must be independent
4 of the program and may not include any person or persons employed
5 by the State. The commission must hire the auditor no later than
6 May 15, 1998.

7 **Sec. A-2. Purpose.** The purpose of the audit is to evaluate
8 the effectiveness and adequacy of the program in administering
9 the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, in maintaining the State's
10 federally delegated primary enforcement authority in
11 administering the act, and in maximizing the availability of
12 federal funds to water systems in the State for carrying out the
13 requirements of the act. In making this evaluation, the auditor
14 shall consider the following factors:

15 1. The current organizational structure and staffing of the
16 program;

17 2. The current and available resources of the program;

18 3. The effectiveness of current management and staff of the
19 program;

20 4. The qualifications and experience necessary for the
21 position of manager of the program;

22 5. The current goals and objectives of the program;

23 6. The program's current data management system, including
24 a comparison of public water systems in the State regarding
25 collection, management, and reporting of compliance data; and

26 7. Any other factor the auditor determines relevant or
27 important within the scope of the purposes of the audit.

28 **Sec. A-3. Coordination with United States Environmental Protection**
29 **Agency.** In evaluating the performance of the program pursuant to
30 section 2 of this Part, the auditor shall consider the
31 requirements of the United States Environmental Protection
32 Agency, including the requirements of the regional office of the
33 agency with jurisdiction over the State, with regard to
34 administering the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, maintaining
35 the State's federally delegated primary enforcement authority in
36 administering the act, and obtaining federal funding for water
37 systems in the State for carrying out the requirements of the
38 Act. In conjunction with this requirement, the auditor shall
39 seek a written statement from the United States Environmental
40 Protection Agency outlining the scope and nature of the agency's
41 particular requirements for Maine's program.
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