MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1772

H.P. 1243

House of Representatives, March 9, 1999

An Act to Require Tire Manufacturers to Accept Tires for Return.

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

GOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GOODWIN of Pembroke.

Be it e	enacted	bv	the	People	of the	State of	' Maine	as follows:
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- Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §4831, sub-§4, as amended by PL 1989, c. 878, Pt. B, §34 and affected by §35, is repealed.
- Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §4832, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1989, c. 927, §5, is further amended to read:

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1. Imposition. A fee is imposed on the retail sale in this State of new-tires, new lead-acid batteries, new major appliances, new major furniture items, new bathtubs and new mattresses. The fee is in the amount of \$1 per tire or lead-acid battery and \$5 for major appliances, major furniture items, bathtubs and mattresses. Additionally, fees in the same amounts are imposed on the storage, use or other consumption in this State of tires, lead-acid batteries, major appliances, major furniture items, bathtubs and mattresses purchased new in this State by the user or purchased out of State by the user unless either of the fees imposed by this section has been paid.

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Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §1316-N is enacted to read:

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\$1316-W. Used motor vehicle tires; return to manufacturer

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- A manufacturer of new motor vehicle tires sold in the State shall:
- 1. Accept used tires. Accept from its customers or distributors all used motor vehicle tires that were manufactured and sold as new after the effective date of this section.
- 32 2. Properly dispose of used tires. Recycle or properly dispose of all used motor vehicle tires it has accepted under this subsection;
- 36 3. Notify purchaser. Notify each purchaser of motor vehicle tires it sells of the available system for proper collection of the tires; and
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 4. Establish a collection system. Provide a system for the collection of the used tires, including a system for customers to return used motor vehicle tires to the distributor of its tires in the State. The tire manufacturer shall accept used tires at the time that new motor vehicle tires are delivered to the purchaser or distributor of its tires in the State. If the tire manufacturer does not make deliveries on a monthly basis, it shall make arrangements with the purchaser or distributor so that all used tires can be returned to the manufacturer each month.

A fee may not be assessed to a purchaser of motor vehicle tires for use of the collection system provided in this subsection.

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SUMMARY

This bill requires a tire manufacturer to accept for return those brands of tires it manufactures. This bill further eliminates the fee paid by the tire consumer for return of the motor vehicle tires.