

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 845

DATE: 5-5-03

(Filing No. H-262)

MAJORITY
NATURAL RESOURCES

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
121ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 622, L.D. 845, Bill, "An Act To Provide Leadership in Addressing the Threat of Climate Change"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA c. 3-A is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 3-A

CLIMATE CHANGE

§574. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Greenhouse gas. "Greenhouse gas" means any chemical or physical substance that is emitted into the air and that the department determines by rule may reasonably be anticipated to cause or contribute to climate change. "Greenhouse gas" includes, but is not limited to, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride. Rules adopted by the department pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

2. Sector. "Sector" means one of the 5 sectors identified in the climate change action plan adopted by the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers in August 2001. The 5 sectors are the transportation, industrial, commercial, institutional and residential sectors.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

H. of S.

2 **§575. Lead-by-example initiative**

4 The department shall establish a lead-by-example initiative
6 under which the department shall:

8 **1. Greenhouse gas emissions inventory for state-owned**
10 **facilities and state-funded programs.** Create an inventory of
12 greenhouse gas emissions associated with state-owned facilities
14 and state-funded programs and create a plan for reducing those
16 emissions to below 1990 levels by 2010;

18 **2. Carbon emission reduction.** By January 1, 2006, seek to
20 establish carbon emission reduction agreements with at least 50
22 businesses and nonprofit organizations;

24 **3. New England greenhouse registry.** Participate in a
26 regional effort to develop and adopt a greenhouse gas registry
28 that includes 3rd-party verification; and

30 **4. Statewide greenhouse gas emissions inventory.** Create an
32 annual statewide greenhouse gas emissions inventory.

34 **§576. Reduction goals**

36 The State's goals for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
38 within the State are as follows:

40 **1. Reduction by 2010.** In the short term, reduction to 1990
42 levels by January 1, 2010;

44 **2. Reduction by 2020.** In the medium term, reduction to 10%
46 below 1990 levels by January 1, 2020; and

48 **3. Long-term reduction.** In the long term, reduction
50 sufficient to eliminate any dangerous threat to the climate. To
accomplish this goal, reduction to 75% to 80% below 2003 levels
may be required.

§577. Climate action plan

By July 1, 2004, the department, with input from
stakeholders, shall adopt a state climate action plan to meet the
reduction goals specified in section 576. The action plan must
address reduction in each sector in cost-effective ways and must
allow sustainably managed forestry, agricultural and other
natural resource activities to be used to sequester greenhouse
gas emissions. The department shall submit the action plan to
the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
jurisdiction over natural resources matters.

2 **§578. Progress evaluation**

4 By January 1, 2006 and by that date every 2 years
6 thereafter, the department shall evaluate the State's progress
8 toward meeting the reduction goals specified in section 576 and
10 shall amend the action plan as necessary to ensure that the State
12 can meet the reduction goals. Starting no earlier than January
1, 2008, the department may recommend to the joint standing
committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural
resources matters that the reduction goals specified in section
576 be increased or decreased.'

14 **SUMMARY**

16
18 This amendment is the report of a majority of the
20 committee. The amendment replaces the bill. The amendment
22 directs the Department of Environmental Protection to create a
24 greenhouse gas emissions inventory for state-owned facilities and
26 state-funded programs; to seek to establish carbon emission
28 reduction agreements with businesses and nonprofit organizations;
30 to participate in a regional greenhouse gas registry; and to
32 create an annual statewide greenhouse gas emissions inventory.
34 The amendment also sets state short-term, medium-term and
36 long-term goals for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
38 within the State. The amendment directs the Department of
40 Environmental Protection to adopt a state climate action plan by
July 1, 2004 and directs the Department of Environmental
Protection to evaluate, every 2 years, the State's progress
toward meeting the reduction goals and to amend the action plan
as necessary to ensure that the State can meet the reduction
goals. Beginning no earlier than 2008, the Department of
Environmental Protection may recommend to the joint standing
committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural
resources matters that the reduction goals be increased or
decreased.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

**121st Maine Legislature
Office of Fiscal and Program Review**



LD 845

**An Act To Provide Leadership in Addressing the Threat of Climate
Change**

LR 1221(02)

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Natural Resources

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund