

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 845

H.P. 622

House of Representatives, February 20, 2003

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

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor.
Cosponsored by Senator TREAT of Kennebec and
Representatives: BULL of Freeport, COWGER of Hallowell, DUNLAP of Old Town,
McLAUGHLIN of Cape Elizabeth, PINGREE of North Haven, Senators: DAMON of
Hancock, EDMONDS of Cumberland, SAWYER of Penobscot.

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

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

6 **CHAPTER 3-A**

8 **CLIMATE CHANGE**

10 **§574. Definitions**

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

14 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 global warming. "Greenhouse gas" includes, but is not limited to, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride.

22 2. **Source.** "Source" means any building, structure, facility, installation or other thing that emits or may emit a greenhouse gas.

26 **§575. New sources of greenhouse gas**

28 A developer of any major development project that requires a permit from the department and that produces a new source of greenhouse gas shall submit a report identifying the source to the department. The department, by rule, shall identify the types of development projects that require a report pursuant to this section.

34 **§576. Lead-by-example initiative**

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

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

44 2. **Carbon emission reduction.** By 2006, enter into carbon emission reduction agreements with at least 50 nonprofit organizations and businesses.

48 **§577. Long-term climate action plan**

50

2 By 2006, the department shall develop a long-term climate
3 action plan for the State that provides for a method for reducing
4 greenhouse gas emissions:

5 1. Reduction by 2010. To 1990 levels by 2010;

6 2. Reduction by 2020. By at least 10% below 1990 levels by
7 2020; and

8 3. Long-term reduction. Ultimately, to a level that is 75%
9 to 80% below 2003 levels. The plan must establish a date by
10 which this reduction should be met.

11 **§578. Rules**

12 The department shall adopt rules to implement this chapter.
13 Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical
14 rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill requires new sources of greenhouse gases to be
17 reported to the Department of Environmental Protection. It also
18 requires the department to create an inventory of greenhouse gas
19 emissions associated with state-owned facilities and state-funded
20 programs and to create a plan for reducing those emissions. The
21 bill also requires the department to enter into carbon emission
22 reduction agreements with nonprofit organizations and
23 businesses. Finally, the bill requires the department to develop
24 a long-term climate action plan for the State.