

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1398

H.P. 1025

House of Representatives, March 20, 2003

An Act To Modify Water Well Reporting Requirements

Submitted by the Department of Conservation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative McKEE of Wayne.
Cosponsored by Senator YOUNGBLOOD of Penobscot and
Representative: ROGERS of Brewer.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §550-B, sub-§1, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 1987, c.
509, is repealed.

6 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §550-B, sub-§1, ¶C** is enacted to read:

8 C. "Well drilling company" means a person, firm,
9 partnership or corporation that owns or otherwise operates
10 any mechanical equipment used to drill, drive or bore water
11 wells.

12 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §550-B, sub-§3, ¶A**, as amended by PL 1999, c.
14 556, §16, is further amended to read:

16 A. Within ~~180~~ 30 days after completion of any well or dry
17 hole, or the enlarging or deepening of an existing well, a
18 well ~~contractor~~ drilling company shall submit a report to
19 the Bureau of Geology and Natural Areas, on forms designed
20 and provided by the Bureau of Geology and Natural Areas.
21 The report must contain information as may be required by
22 the Bureau of Geology and Natural Areas, including, but not
23 limited to, location, construction and well yield.

24 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §550-B, sub-§3, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 1987, c.
26 509, is amended to read:

28 B. Any well ~~contractor~~--the drilling company that has
29 engaged in the construction of water wells, but who has not
30 submitted well completion reports on a timely basis as
31 required by this chapter, ~~shall be~~ is in violation of this
32 chapter.

34 **Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §550-B, sub-§5**, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 509,
35 is amended to read:

36 **5. Penalties.** ~~Any person, company, firm, partnership or~~
37 ~~corporation, who~~ A well drilling company that violates any
38 standard or provision of this chapter, commits a civil violation
39 for which a forfeiture of not more than \$500 may be adjudged. In
40 addition to other civil remedies, the court may issue an
41 injunction.

44 **SUMMARY**

46 This bill makes the definition of the entity responsible for
47 submitting water well information to the State consistent with
48 other laws. The bill reduces the time allowed for the company to
49 submit the information from 6 months to 30 days, which is
50 consistent with the time required by the Maine Water Well
51 Commission.