



122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2006

Legislative Document

No. 1792

S.P. 709

In Senate, December 30, 2005

An Act To Protect Maine Families and the Environment by Improving the Collection and Recycling of Mercury Thermostats

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

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 28, 2005. Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook. Cosponsored by Representative KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor and Representatives: EBERLE of South Portland, THOMPSON of China.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: 2 Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1664, sub-§2, ¶C is enacted to read: 4 C. Beginning January 1, 2007, manufacturers of thermostats б containing mercury that are sold in this State shall pay, individually or collectively, a minimum of \$5 for each 8 thermostat containing mercury brought to a state-approved collection_site. 10 Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §1664, sub-§2, ¶D is enacted to read: 12 D. By January 1, 2007 and annually thereafter, 14 manufacturers of thermostats containing mercury that are sold in this State shall report to the joint standing 16 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters on any fee or other charge 18 collected on the sale of new thermostats for the purpose of paying the cost of carrying out the manufacturers' 20 responsibilities under paragraph C. The report must specify the amount of the fee or charge collected and how the amount of the fee or charge was determined. By July 1, 2008 and 22 annually thereafter, those manufacturers shall report in writing to the department on the results of the thermostat 24 collection and recycling efforts required under this 26 section. The report must include, at a minimum, the number of thermostats containing mercury collected and recycled 28 during the previous calendar year, the estimated total amount of mercury contained in the components and any 30 recommendations to improve the future collection and recycling of thermostats containing mercury. By January 1, 2008 and annually thereafter, the department shall report to 32 the department on the effectiveness of the thermostat collection and recycling efforts required under this section 34 and whether the program should be terminated and, if so, 36 when.

SUMMARY

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beginning This bill requires that January 1, 2007 manufacturers of thermostats containing mercury that are sold in 42 this State pay a minimum of \$5 for each thermostat containing mercury brought to a state-approved collection site. This bill 44 requires that manufacturers of thermostats containing also mercury that are sold in this State report annually to the joint 46 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over 48 natural resources matters on the fees imposed and to the Department of Environmental Protection on the results of the thermostat collection and recycling efforts. 50