

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

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Legislative Document

No. 1234

H.P. 876

House of Representatives, March 8, 2007

### **An Act To Require Clear Warnings on Light Bulbs Containing Mercury**

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative MAKAS of Lewiston.  
Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook and  
Representatives: BLISS of South Portland, DUCHESNE of Hudson, EBERLE of South  
Portland, MIRAMANT of Camden, WAGNER of Lewiston, WALCOTT of Lewiston,  
Senators: BARTLETT of Cumberland, BROMLEY of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1661, sub-§1**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2001, c. 656,  
3 §1, is amended to read:

4 **1. Mercury-added product.** "Mercury-added product" means any of the following  
5 items if it contains mercury added during manufacture:

6 A. A thermostat or thermometer;

7 B. A switch or other device, individually or as part of another product, used to  
8 measure, control or regulate gas, other fluids or electricity;

9 C. A medical or scientific instrument;

10 D. An electric relay or other electrical device; ~~and~~

11 E. A lamp; and

12 F. A light bulb.

13 **SUMMARY**

14 Under current law, a retailer may not knowingly sell in this State a mercury-added  
15 product unless the item is labeled to clearly inform the purchaser or consumer that  
16 mercury is present in the item and that the item may not be disposed of or placed in a  
17 waste stream destined for disposal until the mercury is removed and reused, recycled or  
18 otherwise managed to ensure that it does not become part of solid waste or wastewater.  
19 This bill amends the definition of "mercury-added product" to include light bulbs  
20 containing mercury, which would include the long-lasting energy efficient bulbs that are  
21 currently available.