

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 515

H.P. 360

House of Representatives, February 12, 2009

An Act To Allow a Municipality To Recover Emergency Response Costs from a Natural Gas Utility in Certain Cases

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative DRISCOLL of Westbrook.
Cosponsored by Senator BARTLETT of Cumberland and
Representatives: CLARK of Millinocket, PEOPLES of Westbrook, TRINWARD of
Waterville, TUTTLE of Sanford, Senator: BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1317, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 730, §2, is amended
3 to read:

4 **2. Hazardous matter.** "Hazardous matter" means substances identified by the board
5 under section 1319 that present a present or potential danger to the people of the State or
6 to its natural environment when deposited on land or discharged on or into waters of the
7 State or ambient air. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, "hazardous matter"
8 includes natural gas that has been released into ambient air.

9 **SUMMARY**

10 This bill clarifies that the term "hazardous matter" includes natural gas that has been
11 released into ambient air in order for that event to qualify for reimbursement when
12 municipalities recover emergency response costs.