

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

131ST LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 590, L.D. 1471, "An Act to Amend Provisions of the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 200: Metallic Mineral Exploration, Advanced Exploration and Mining, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A requires legislative authorization before major substantive agency rules may be finally adopted by the agency; and

Whereas, a major substantive rule was submitted to the Legislature outside the legislative rule acceptance period and a legislative instrument to allow for legislative review was not prepared; and

Whereas, immediate enactment of this resolve is necessary to record the Legislature's position on final adoption of the rule; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Adoption. Resolved: That, notwithstanding any provision of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A to the contrary, and using this resolve as provided in Title 5, section 8072, subsection 11, the Legislature authorizes final adoption of portions of Chapter 200: Metallic Mineral Exploration, Advanced Exploration and Mining, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 Environmental Protection that was submitted February 29, 2024 to the Legislature for
2 review pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A outside the legislative rule
3 acceptance period, only if the following changes are made:

4 1. The rule must be amended, as necessary, in section 36(B), and any other relevant
5 sections to provide that, as part of a preapplication mine waste and ore sampling and testing
6 plan, proposed rock sampling under such plan must:

7 A. Include a minimum of 4 samples per acre of proposed exclusion area, except that
8 the department may require less than 4 but not less than 2 samples per acre in cases
9 where the department determines that the geology is uniform and not complex, such
10 that requiring less than 4 but not less than 2 samples per acre is appropriate; and

11 B. Be conducted by a qualified professional;

12 2. The rule must be amended, as necessary, in section 36(C), and any other relevant
13 sections to provide that, as part of a preapplication water quality evaluation plan, proposed
14 water quality testing on groundwater and surface water samples from a proposed exclusion
15 area must include, but not be limited to, testing for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl
16 substances, or PFAS. The rule must also require water quality testing on groundwater and
17 surface water samples from reclaimed portions of an exclusion area, as directed by the
18 department, that includes, but is not limited to, testing of those samples for PFAS;

19 3. The rule must be amended, as necessary, in section 39 to require, as a condition of
20 the department's approval of an exclusion application, that all lighting fixtures implemented
21 or used by the licensee within the exclusion area must be designed to reduce, to the greatest
22 extent practicable, the glare and light pollution on all adjacent areas through the use of
23 shielding, reflectors, light diffusers and other measures, as specified by the department.
24 The rules must establish requirements for allowable lighting fixtures within the exclusion
25 area that limit each lighting fixture to a light emittance rating of not more than 2,000 lumens
26 and a correlated color temperature of not more than 3,000K;

27 4. The rule must be amended, as necessary, in section 39 to require, as a condition of
28 the department's approval of an exclusion application, that reclamation within an exclusion
29 area must, to the greatest extent practicable, be designed to result in restoration of natural
30 vegetation and other wildlife and aquatic resources that existed prior to the commencement
31 of mining activities within the exclusion area;

32 5. The rule must be amended, as necessary, in section 39(D)(4), and any other relevant
33 sections, to provide that the total area within an exclusion area that is actively used for the
34 physical extraction of metallic minerals and not yet reclaimed does not exceed 5 acres.

35 A. In calculating whether the 5-acre limit is reached, the rule may not include the areas
36 within an exclusion area that are not actively used for the physical extraction of metallic
37 minerals, including, but not limited to, areas where extracted material is stockpiled or
38 stored; areas where extracted material is crushed, ground or physically sorted; areas
39 that include buildings or other structures relating to or supporting mining activities;
40 and access roads, parking lots and related infrastructure.

41 B. Once the 5-acre limit is reached, the rule must require reclamation in order to
42 expand the area within the exclusion area that is actively used for the physical
43 extraction of metallic minerals such that, at any time, a maximum of 5 acres in total are
44 actively used for the physical extraction of metallic minerals and not yet reclaimed.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 The rule must provide for the requirements and standards applicable to the reclamation of
2 all areas within the exclusion area, including those areas not actively used for the physical
3 extraction of metallic minerals; and

4 6. All other necessary changes must be made to the rule to ensure conformity and
5 consistency throughout the rule and to ensure consistency between the rule and the
6 provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 490-NN, subsection 4, including
7 any necessary grammatical, formatting, punctuation or other technical, nonsubstantive
8 editing changes.

9 The Department of Environmental Protection is not required to hold hearings or
10 undertake further proceedings prior to final adoption of the rule in accordance with this
11 section.

12 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation
13 takes effect when approved.'

14 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
15 number to read consecutively.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve and adds an emergency preamble and
18 clause. It provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 200: Metallic Mineral
19 Exploration, Advanced Exploration and Mining, a major substantive rule of the Department
20 of Environmental Protection that was filed outside the legislative rule acceptance period on
21 February 29, 2024. The amendment approves final adoption of the rule only if certain
22 changes are made to the rule, as specified in the amendment, prior to final adoption.

23 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

24 (See attached)



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1471

LR 2272(02)

An Act to Amend Provisions of the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "*A(S. 662)*
Committee: Environment and Natural Resources
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt the changes in this resolve are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.