

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 1508

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H.P. 963

House of Representatives, April 5, 2023

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### **An Act to Ensure a Strategic Approach to Maine's Energy Transition by Imposing a Moratorium on Lithium Mining**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative O'NEIL of Saco.  
Cosponsored by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock and  
Representatives: MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, PLUECKER of Warren, WILLIAMS of Bar  
Harbor, ZEIGLER of Montville, Senator: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §490-MM, sub-§8**, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 653, §23 and  
3 affected by §33, is amended to read:

4 **8. Metallic mineral.** "Metallic mineral" means any ore or material to be excavated  
5 from the natural deposits on or in the earth for its metallic mineral content to be used for  
6 commercial or industrial purposes. "Metallic mineral" includes, but is not limited to,  
7 lithium and does not include thorium or uranium.

8 **Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §490-OO, sub-§4, ¶P** is enacted to read:

9 P. The mining operation will not involve the extraction or removal of ore or other  
10 material that contains lithium.

11 This paragraph is repealed October 1, 2028.

12 **SUMMARY**

13 This bill amends the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act to clarify that the term  
14 "metallic mineral" as used in that law includes lithium. It also prohibits the Department of  
15 Environmental Protection from issuing a mining permit under that law for a mining  
16 operation that involves the extraction or removal of ore or other material that contains  
17 lithium. This prohibition is repealed October 1, 2028.