

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 1, 1982 to June 24, 1983
Chapters 453-End

AND AT THE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
September 6, 1983 to September 7, 1983
Chapters 583-588

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES
ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

J.S. McCarthy Co., Inc.
Augusta, Maine
1983

**PRIVATE AND
SPECIAL LAWS**

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED AT THE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
and
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
of the
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
1983

For clean up of
hazardous waste
dump at Buckfield

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

Effective July 1, 1983.

CHAPTER 56

H.P. 1248 - L.D. 1662

AN ACT Concerning the Agricultural Use of Sludge.

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

Whereas, the tanning industry is an important part of the Maine economy; and

Whereas, the disposal of tannery sludge is currently a major economic and environmental problem; and

Whereas, properly controlled land application of tannery sludge could be a cost-effective and environmentally sound method of managing these wastes, while increasing soil conditioning and productivity; and

Whereas, demonstration of land application technology under controlled conditions this field season is of the utmost urgency to preserve the tanning industry in Maine; 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 enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. Findings and purpose. The Legislature

finds that present disposal of tannery sludge in landfills is expensive, is wasteful of an important agricultural resource and may degrade the environment. The Legislature further finds that land application of tannery sludge would enhance soil productivity. The Legislature directs the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to conduct a 3-year tannery sludge application demonstration project to determine whether this poses any adverse health or environmental effects.

Sec. 2. Department of Environmental Protection. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall:

A. Provide notice and opportunity for public participation of the demonstration project in accordance with the Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 345;

B. Submit a plan for the conduct of the demonstration plan to the Board of Environmental Protection;

C. Monitor the project and evaluate the impact of sludge application on ground water, soils and plant crop uptake of heavy metals;

D. Determine the optimum sludge application rates; and

E. Report to the board by November 1st of each year on the progress of the project and make any necessary recommendations for changes.

Sec. 3. Tannery industry. The tannery industry shall provide the use of a suitable site of not more than 50 acres for the project and shall cooperate with the department in the conduct of the project.

Sec. 4. Participating municipality. The commissioner shall seek a municipality that handles tannery sludge at its wastewater treatment facilities for participation in the project. This municipality shall provide the sludge for the project. The department shall consult with the municipal officers on the conduct of the project.

Sec. 5. Board of Environmental Protection. The board shall review the plan for the conduct of the project and approve the project if it determines that it is not likely that the project will impair human health or degrade the environment. The board shall ensure that the project conforms to all existing statutes and regulations to the greatest extent possible.

Sec. 6. Termination of the project. At the termination of the project, the board shall assess the impact of the project on the ground water. If the project has caused any ground water supplies to exceed applicable drinking water standards, the board shall provide for restrictive covenants in accordance with the Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1308-A.

Sec. 7. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1984-85</u>
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,</u>		
<u>DEPARTMENT OF</u>		
All Other	\$20,000	\$10,000

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

Effective July 1, 1983.
