

LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

December 5, 1990 to July 10, 1991

Chapters 1 - 590

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS OCTOBER 9, 1991

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

> J.S. McCarthy Company Augusta, Maine 1991

PUBLIC LAWS

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1991

<u>1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.</u>

A. "Premises" means improved and unimproved lands upon which recycling activities are conducted.

B. "Recycling activities" means collection or separation or both of materials in containers:

> (1) Owned by a municipality or regional association as defined in Title 38, section 1303-C, subsection 24; and

> (2) Located on the premises of the owner, lessee or occupant under an agreement between the municipality or regional association and the owner, lessee or occupant of the premises.

2. No remuneration. The owner, lessee or occupant of the premises may not receive any remuneration from the municipality or regional association for allowing recycling activities to be conducted on the premises.

3. Limited liability. An owner, lessee or occupant of the premises is not liable for personal injury, property damage or death caused by recycling activities within 20 feet of the containers used in recycling activities. The containers used in recycling activities are considered other machinery or equipment, whether mobile or stationary, under Title 14, section 8104-A, subsection 1, paragraph G for which the municipality or regional association is liable as provided by the Maine Tort Claims Act.

4. Limitations. This section does not limit any liability that may otherwise exist for a willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition on the premises related to the recycling activities.

5. No duty created. Nothing in this section creates a duty of care or ground of liability for injury to a person or property.

6. Costs and fees. The court may award any direct legal costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, to an owner, lessee or occupant who is found not to be liable for injury to a person or property pursuant to this section.

7. Repeal. This section is repealed on July 15, 1994.

Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §2184, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Recycling activities; limited liability. When the owner, lessee or occupant of premises as defined in Title 14, section 159-B undertakes recycling activities, as defined in Title 14, section 159-B on the premises, liability is limited as provided in Title 14, section 159-B.

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

Effective June 21, 1991.

CHAPTER 488

S.P. 701 - L.D. 1869

An Act Concerning Acquisition of Heating Oil Assets

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

10 MRSA §1109, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 750, is amended to read:

§1109. Acquisition of gasoline and heating oil assets

1. Definitions. "Gasoline sales" means the retail sale of internal combustion fuel for motor vehicles as defined in Title 29, section 1, subsection 7. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Gasoline sales" means the retail sale of internal combustion fuel for motor vehicles as defined in Title 29, section 1, subsection 7.

B. "Heating oil sales" means the retail sale of #2 fuel oil used for heating residential, industrial or commercial space or water.

2. Prohibition. A person may not acquire, directly or indirectly, from a business engaged in gasoline sales or <u>heating oil sales</u> in this State, without prior notice as required under subsection 3:

A. Controlling stock; or

B. Substantial assets that include those used in gasoline sales <u>or heating oil sales</u>.

3. Report. The person acquiring stock or assets under subsection 2 shall provide notice of this acquisition to the Department of the Attorney General at least 30 days prior to the date of acquisition. That period may be shortened with the consent of the Attorney General.

4. Confidentiality. Information received by the Department of the Attorney General as a result of this reporting requirement is a confidential investigative record under Title 5, section 200-D.

5. Penalty. Violation of this section is a civil violation for which a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 may be assessed.

See title page for effective date.