

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

DAVID P. LITTELL

GOVERNOR

COMMISSIONER

March 20, 2007

Senator John L. Martin, Chair
Representative Theodore S. Koffman, Chair
Committee on Natural Resources
100 State House Station
Augusta ME 04333

Re: Report on the amount of mercury in amalgam fillings

Dear Senator Martin, Representative Koffman and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Environmental Protection is pleased to provide you with this report on the quantity of mercury in amalgam fillings sold to Maine dentists in 2006. Resolves 2005 c. 145, requires us to report this total for 2006, 2007 and 2008. A copy of the Resolve is enclosed.

The four suppliers named below were identified with the help of the Maine Dental Association. We are not aware of any other companies that supplied amalgam to Maine dentists last year.

Supplier	Location	Mercury in 2006 amalgam sales to Maine dentists
Benco Dental	Wilkes-Barre PA	5.8 lbs
Darby Dental Supply	Jericho NY	4.5 lbs
Henry Schein, Inc	Melville NY	136.7 lbs
Patterson Dental	St. Paul MN	<u>60.4 lbs</u>
TOTAL:		207.4 lbs

To put this in context, 30.7 tons of mercury were used in dental amalgam sold in the U.S. in 2001 according to amalgam manufacturers. The reported total for U.S. amalgam sales in 2004 was 30.4 tons. Based on the 2000 U.S. census, Maine's pro-rata share of these totals was 276.3 pounds in 2001 and 273.6 pounds in 2004.

Please feel free to call me at 287- 2812 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

David P. Littell, Commissioner

cc Jeffrey S. Fister, DMD, President, Maine Board of Dental Examiners

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APPROVED

CHAPTER

MAR 27 '06

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BY GOVERNOR

RESOLVES

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND AND SIX

S.P. 465 - L.D. 1338

**Resolve, To Require the Reporting of Mercury Amalgam
Supplied to Dentists**

Sec. 1. Report concerning amalgam fillings. Resolved: That, annually by January 1st of 2007, 2008 and 2009, any person that supplies mercury amalgam to dentists or dental offices in this State shall report to the Department of Environmental Protection the volume of amalgam the person supplied to dentists and dental offices in this State during the prior year. Annually by February 1st of 2007, 2008 and 2009, the Department of Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Board of Dental Examiners, shall report the quantity of amalgam supplied to dentists and dental offices in this State to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters. For the purposes of this section, "person" means an individual, partnership, corporation or other legal entity.