

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Establish "Clean Air - No Idling" Zones

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

Sec. 1. 29-A MRS §2116 is enacted to read:

§ 2116. Clean air - no idling zones

1. Establishment of zones. The following areas are designated as clean air - no idling zones:

A. Areas within 100 feet of Maine State Ferry Service loading areas;

B. Areas within 100 feet of state-controlled drawbridges; and

C. Areas within 100 feet of a public building that are designated as areas where smoking is prohibited.

2. Prohibition. An operator of a vehicle may not allow that vehicle's engine to idle for more than 5 consecutive minutes when the vehicle is not in motion and the vehicle is in a clean air - no idling zone.

3. Exceptions. Subsection 2 does not apply to the following vehicles:

A. On-duty emergency vehicles; and

B. Vehicles with refrigeration units requiring engine power.

4. Penalty. A person who violates this section commits a civil violation for which a fine not to exceed \$1,000 may be imposed.

5. Signs. The department shall install signs at each clean air - no idling zone that clearly indicate that idling is not permitted within the zone.

6. Marketing and education. The department, with assistance and input from the affected community, shall undertake a marketing and education campaign to promote compliance with this section.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes "clean air - no idling zones" to protect public health and the environment by reducing tailpipe emissions and to conserve fuel by restricting the unnecessary operation of motor vehicle engines.