



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 627

H.P. 463

House of Representatives, March 1, 2021

**An Act Relating to the Statute of Limitations for Injuries or Harm
Resulting from Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances**

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 25, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative PARRY of Arundel.
Cosponsored by Senator CYRWAY of Kennebec and
Representatives: COREY of Windham, Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, KINNEY of Knox,
O'CONNOR of Berwick, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, THERIAULT of China, TUELL of East
Machias, Senator: DIAMOND of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §752-F** is enacted to read:

3 **§752-F. Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances**

4 An action arising out of any harm or injury caused by a perfluoroalkyl or
5 polyfluoroalkyl substance must be commenced within 6 years after the date the plaintiff
6 discovers or reasonably should have discovered such harm or injury. For the purposes of
7 this section, "perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance" means any member of the class
8 of fluorinated organic chemicals containing at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom.

9 Nothing in this section may be construed to alter the notice period applicable to claims
10 and causes of actions against governmental entities in section 8107 or the time to file an
11 action against a governmental entity in section 8110.

12 **SUMMARY**

13 This bill provides that an action arising out of any harm or injury caused by a
14 perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance must be commenced within 6 years after the
15 plaintiff discovers or should have discovered such harm or injury.

16 It makes clear that the notice of claim and statute of limitations provisions of the Maine
17 Tort Claims Act apply to actions against governmental entities that arise out of any harm
18 or injury caused by a perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance.