

1977 Assembly Bill 881

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CHAPTER 375, Laws of 1977

AN ACT to repeal 100.28; and to create 100.28 of the statutes, relating to prohibiting the sale of cleaning agents and water conditioners with specific phosphorus concentrations, requiring a study by the department of natural resources and providing a penalty.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 100.28 of the statutes is created to read:

100.28 Sale of cleaning agents and water conditioners containing phosphorus prohibited. (1) In this section:

(a) "Chemical water conditioner" means a water softening chemical or other substance containing phosphorus intended to treat water for machine laundry use.

(b) "Cleaning agent" means any laundry detergent, laundry additive, dishwashing compound, cleanser, household cleaner, metal cleaner, degreasing compound, commercial cleaner, industrial cleaner, phosphate compound or other substance intended to be used for cleaning purposes.

(2) Until June 30, 1981, and except as provided in sub. (3), no person may sell at retail:

(a) Any cleaning agent for machine dishwashing or cleansing of medical and surgical equipment which contains more than 8.7% phosphorus by weight.

(b) Any cleaning agent other than a cleaning agent specified in par. (a) which contains more than 0.5% phosphorus by weight.

(c) Any chemical water conditioner which contains more than 20% phosphorus by weight.

(3) Cleaning agents used for industrial processes and cleaning or for cleansing dairy equipment are not subject to this section.

(4) Any person violating this section shall forfeit not more than \$100.

SECTION 2. 100.28 of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 3. **Study required.** The department of natural resources shall conduct a study to determine the effect of restricting the use of phosphates in laundry detergents on certain sample lakes in this state including Lakes Michigan and Superior. The

department of natural resources may use and request the use of resources of the university of Wisconsin system and any other sources of scientific expertise. The department may accept and receive any unrestricted grants or funds from any sources to fund this study. The department shall report its findings and recommendations to the legislature on January 1, 1982.

SECTION 4. Application. (1) The treatment of section 100.28 of the statutes, as created by this act, shall take effect on July 1, 1979.

(2) The treatment of section 100.28 of the statutes, as repealed by this act, shall take effect on July 1, 1982.
