



MAINE MARINE TRADES ASSOCIATION

Proudly serving the boating industry in Maine for over 55 years

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Statement from Maine Marine Trades Association; November 9, 2022

After the first rule making draft was released regarding Public Law c. 477, An Act To Stop Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Pollution, the Maine Marine Trades Association (MMTA), along with some national colleagues, asked for an extension on the January 1, 2023 compliance deadline for the marine industry.

The Maine DEP responded by saying that we were prohibited from asking for an industry-wide extension and that specific companies would have to be named in the request. The Department did not indicate how long the request would take to process. Because the first draft potentially required rule compliance from both retailers and manufacturers, MMTA requested extensions for any member who might potentially sell any retail products. Those sales could include obvious marine industry products such as boats, sails and engines but could also include retail sales of logo wear or textiles such as t-shirts, hats, tote bags, or key fobs.

Members were notified about the request for extension in an email and direct mailing. The list of members submitted to DEP in no way represents companies with known sales or manufacturing of products containing PFAS, nor does it prevent any company from becoming compliant with the program on or before the January 1, 2023, deadline if they are able to do so.

Due to anticipated challenges with the requirements of this law in such a short time span, MMTA has also requested compliance assistance and training from Maine DEP. The request for an extension and training assistance is not about avoiding compliance. Our intent is to help our small businesses achieve compliance when facing a new, monumental law that will involve complex national and international cooperation.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of MMTA,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stacey Keefer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stacey Keefer, Executive Director