

CHAPTER 732

(Senate Bill 996)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 173, 174, 176, 177 and 178 of Article 48 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Inspections," subtitle "Boiler Safety Act"; to repeal Section 172 of said Article, title and subtitle, and to enact new Section 172 in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the section repealed, providing for the regulation of pressure vessels; defining pressure vessels; changing the composition of the Board of Boiler Rules and placing the Board within the Division of Labor and Industry; authorizing the Board to formulate rules and regulations for pressure vessels; establishing exemptions to which the subtitle applies; providing for inspection of pressure vessels; establishing fees for inspection certificates for boilers and pressure vessels; and relating generally to boiler and pressure vessel safety, and correcting an error therein.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Sections 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 173, 174, 176, 177 and 178 of Article 48 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Inspections," subtitle "Boiler Safety Act," be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to repeal Section 172 of said Article, title and subtitle, and to enact new Section 172 in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the section repealed, and all to read as follows:

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The General Assembly of the State of Maryland finds that there have been numerous recent incidents of peril to the safety of life, limb and property due to improper and/or inadequate construction, installation, maintenance, use, repair or inspection of boilers AND PRESSURE VESSELS operating in this State. It is the policy of this subtitle and the intent of the General Assembly to establish boiler AND PRESSURE VESSEL safety standards in the State of Maryland to provide a level consistent with the needs of the population for their safety of life, limb and property.

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This subtitle shall be known and may be cited as the Boiler AND PRESSURE VESSEL Safety Act and, except as otherwise herein provided, shall apply to all boilers AND PRESSURE VESSELS. For the purpose of this subtitle, the following definitions apply.

(a) Boiler--a closed vessel in which water is heated, steam is generated, steam is superheated, or any combination thereof, under pressure or vacuum for use externally to itself by the direct application of heat from the combustion of fuels, or from electricity or nuclear energy. The term "boiler" shall include fired units for heating or vaporizing liquids other than water where these units are separate from processing systems and are complete within themselves.

(1) Power boiler--a boiler in which steam or other vapor is generated at a pressure of more than fifteen (15) psig.

(2) High pressure, high temperature water boiler--a water boiler operating at pressures exceeding 160 psig or temperatures exceeding 250 degrees F.

(3) [Low pressure boiler] HEATING BOILER--a steam boiler operating at pressures not exceeding fifteen (15) psig, or a hot water boiler operating at