## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION
ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE
Legislative Document No. 1906
S. P. 808  Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.  Referred to the Committee on Taxation and ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.
MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate Presented by Senator McBreairty of Aroostook. Cosponsors: Senator Brown of Washington, Representative Gillis of Calais and Representative Moholland of Princeton.
STATE OF MAINE
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO
AN ACT to Allow Municipalities to Withdraw from the Maine Forestry District.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
12 MRSA §1204 is enacted to read:
§1204. Withdrawal from district
1. Vote to withdraw. Any municipality within the Maine Forestry District may, by vote at any meeting of its inhabitants duly called and held, vote to withdraw from the Maine Forestry District.
2. Information to be furnished to commissioner. If any municipality votes to withdraw from the Maine Forestry District, the municipality officials shall furnish to the commissioner the following information:
A. A certified copy of the vote; and

- B. Such proof as the commissioner deems necessary that the municipality has its own fire department or that the municipality has contracted for adequate fire protection.
  - 3. Commissioner to examine information and inform municipality of withdrawal. The commissioner shall, within 30 days of receipt, review all information submitted by a municipality under subsection 2 and if he finds that the requirements of this section have been met, he shall notify the municipality that the requirements of this section have been met and that the municipality is withdrawn from the Maine Forestry District.
  - 4. Rules. The commissioner may, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, promulgate rules necessary to carry out this section.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

Many municipalities within the Maine Forestry District are suffering serious financial hardship. Some feel that they would be able to provide adequate forest fire protection at a cost less than the amount they are assessed under the current Maine Forestry District tax. This bill allows municipalities who find themselves in this situation to withdraw from the Maine Forestry District, if they either:

- 1. Have their own fire department; or
- 25 2. Have contracted for fire protection.