MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 1990

Legislative Document

No. 1921

H.P. 1391

House of Representatives, December 13, 1989

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 13, 1989. Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and 1600 ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 14.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative JACQUES of Waterville.
Cosponsored by Senator KANY of Kennebec, Representative ANDERSON of Woodland and Representative MICHAUD of East Millinocket.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

An Act to Prevent Overutilization of Forest Resources.



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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §685-B, sub-§4, ¶G is enacted to read:

G. Notwithstanding any other section of this chapter, in the operation of an activity requiring a regular supply of 6 wood or wood-derived materials, the applicant demonstrates having access to a supply of wood or wood fiber that will 8 not unreasonably harm forest resources and is consistent 10 with a sustainable timber supply. For the purposes of this

subsection, wood fiber may be derived from recycled materials.

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Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §484, sub-§9 is enacted to read:

9. Wood supply. If the operation of the activity requires a regular supply of wood or wood-derived materials, the applicant must demonstrate access to a supply of wood or wood fiber that will not unreasonably harm forest resources and is consistent with a sustainable timber supply. For the purposes of this subsection, wood fiber may be derived from recycled materials.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to ensure the sustainability of Maine forests. Over the past decade, Maine has experienced a significant increase in the number of activities that rely heavily on a continuous supply of wood. Those projects include paper making and biomass boilers. This bill adds wood supply to the Board of Environmental Protection criteria when approving proposed developments and places wood supply among considerations of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission when approving applications for proposed developments. In an effort to encourage the use of recycled materials, this bill clarifies that wood fiber may be derived from recycled materials. Enactment of this bill gives the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission and the Board of Environmental Protection clear authority to ensure that new demands do not harm the long-term viability of Maine forest resources.