

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2002

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Legislative Document

No. 2205

S.P. 825

In Senate, March 27, 2002

**Resolve, to Adjust the Valuation of St. John Plantation as a Result of a Fire.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela L. Cahill".

PAMELA L. CAHILL  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Representative MICHAUD of Fort Kent and  
Representatives: PARADIS of Frenchville, SMITH of Van Buren.

2           **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** Acts and resolves of the  
Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after  
adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

4  
6           **Whereas,** on the weekend of March 16th and 17th, 2002, a  
devastating fire broke out in St. John Plantation; and

8           **Whereas,** as a result of the fire, the area has experienced a  
sudden and severe disruption of valuation; and

10  
12           **Whereas,** absent this special legislation, there would be no  
avenue for the State to calculate an adjusted state valuation for  
St. John Plantation for the year 2002; and

14  
16           **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts  
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of  
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately  
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and  
safety; now, therefore, be it

20           **Sec. 1. State valuation for St. John Plantation for year 2002.**

22           **Resolved:** That, due to the sudden and devastating fire that  
began in St. John Plantation the weekend of March 16th and 17th,  
2002, notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36,  
24           section 208 or 208-A, the State Tax Assessor shall reduce the  
state valuation for St. John Plantation for the year 2002 to  
26           \$9,480,000; and be it further

28           **Sec. 2. State valuation for St. John Plantation for year 2003.**

30           **Resolved:** That St. John Plantation may request a reduction in  
its state valuation under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36,  
32           section 208-A for the year 2003 based on the reduction in value  
of the sawmill owned by Irving Forest Products without meeting  
34           the threshold of the statewide average tax rate under Title 36,  
section 208-A, subsection 2, paragraph C.

36           **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
38           preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

40  
42   **SUMMARY**

In recognition of the sudden and devastating fire that began  
44           in St. John Plantation on March 16, 2002, this resolve directs  
the State Tax Assessor to reduce the state valuation for St. John  
46           Plantation for the year 2002 by 21% to \$9,480,000.

48           This resolve also authorizes St. John Plantation to seek an  
adjustment of its state valuation for the year 2003 without

2 meeting the state average tax rate threshold required under the provisions of current law.