



122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document	 	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	No. 133

H.P. 111

House of Representatives, January 13, 2005

Resolve, To Support Long-term Forest Management and Sound Silviculture

Submitted by the Department of Conservation pursuant to Joint Rule 204. Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

Millient M. Mac Jarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk

Presented by Representative PIOTTI of Unity. Cosponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin and Representatives: CARR of Lincoln, KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, LUNDEEN of Mars Hill, PINEAU of Jay, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, SMITH of Monmouth, Senator: BRYANT of Oxford. Sec. 1. Report to Legislature. Resolved: That no later than January 2, 2006 the Commissioner of Conservation shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry with recommendations and an implementation plan for encouraging and supporting long-term forest management and improved silviculture. In preparing the report, the commissioner shall review, at a minimum, the following:

Repeal or reduction of capital gains taxes on the sale
 of timber on land held for a minimum period;

8

16

32

36

44

46

- 12 2. Reduction of capital gains or property taxes for landowners enrolled in forest certification programs or committing to a higher level of forest management or providing public recreational access;
- 3. Provision of loan guarantees for sustainable forestry 18 investments to increase access to capital for landowners committed to sustainable forest management to purchase forest 20 land; and
- 22 4. Concepts and mechanisms that could contribute to achieving the goal of supporting long-term forest management and
 24 improved silviculture.
- In conducting the review, the commissioner shall solicit input from representatives of the forestry community, including
 forest products businesses, professional loggers, state agencies, municipalities, industrial and nonindustrial landowners,
 environmental groups, financial institutions, Legislators and members of the public.
- The final report must include detailed cost information and proposed changes to existing laws, rules and policies necessary to implement the recommendations; and be it further
- Sec. 2. Legislation authorized. Resolved: That the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 122nd Legislature to implement any or all of the provisions of the plan recommended under section 1 of this resolve or revisions to the plan approved by the committee.

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Conservation to 48 conduct additional research on economic incentives to support long-term forest management and sound silviculture, and to 50 recommend legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 122nd Legislature.

Page 1-LR0312(1)