

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 39

Date: 5/8/25

(Filing No. H-125)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 3, L.D. 39, "An Act to Require Forest Landowners to Report the Registration or Sale of Their Forest Carbon Credits"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Require Landowners to Report Their Participation in a Forest Carbon Program or Project'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §8881, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. Forest carbon credit. "Forest carbon credit" means a unit that is equivalent to one metric ton of carbon dioxide emissions or carbon dioxide equivalent emissions that are avoided, removed or absorbed as a result of forest management activities that are either undertaken or deferred to increase forest carbon storage or sequestration.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §8881, sub-§2-B is enacted to read:

2-B. Forest carbon program or project. "Forest carbon program or project" means a planned set of forest management activities for a defined area of forest land that is designed to provide transferable forest carbon credits and that is developed to conform to an existing voluntary or regulatory forest carbon protocol or registry.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §8881, sub-§2-C is enacted to read:

2-C. Forest carbon project developer. "Forest carbon project developer" means an entity that acts on behalf of a landowner to establish forest carbon credits to meet the requirements of an existing voluntary or regulatory forest carbon protocol or registry. "Forest carbon project developer" also means a landowner that acts as the landowner's own forest carbon project developer.

Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §8885, sub-§2-B is enacted to read:

2-B. Report on forest carbon program or project. A landowner or the landowner's designated agent shall submit a report to the director whenever any portion of the

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landowner's forest land located in the State is enrolled in a forest carbon program or project. The report must include the following information:

A. The name of the forest carbon program or project and the name of the forest carbon project developer, if different from the landowner;

B. The name of the voluntary or regulatory forest carbon protocol or registry and the forest carbon program or project identification number in the registry, if known;

C. The legal name and contact information of the landowner or landowners as of the date of enrollment in the forest carbon program or project;

D. The period of enrollment in the forest carbon program or project of the affected forest land; and

E. The total forest acreage enrolled in the forest carbon program or project by town, township or plantation.

A landowner that enrolled in a forest carbon program or project prior to the effective date of this subsection must file the report required pursuant to subsection 2-B by July 1, 2026.

Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §8885, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. F, §47 and affected by Pt. X, §2 and amended by PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §7 and PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. A, §23, is further amended to read:

3. Reports. Reports required under subsections 1 and 2, 2-A and 2-B are due during the month of January for the preceding year. If the period of cutting under subsection 1 or 2 or 2-A extends beyond December 31st of any calendar year, a report must be submitted during the month of January for the preceding year. A person filing a harvest notification form pursuant to section 8883-B must complete and return to the bureau a harvest report whether or not the landowner has harvested that year.

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It requires that a landowner or the landowner's designated agent report participation in a forest carbon program or project to the Director of the Bureau of Forestry within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The amendment decreases the amount of information required under the bill to be included in a report of a forest carbon program or project. The amendment also eliminates the bill's requirement that an initial report for a forest carbon project over 1,000 acres in size must be accompanied by a fee of \$200.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



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LD 39

LR 150(02)

An Act to Require Forest Landowners to Report the Registration or Sale of Their Forest Carbon Credits

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-125)

Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry from the provisions of this bill are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.