

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 279**

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H. P. 183

House of Representatives, January 12, 1961.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Bragdon of Perham.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-ONE

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**RESOLVE, Appropriating Moneys for Spruce Budworm Control.**

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**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment; and

Whereas, serious infestations of spruce budworm have developed in the forests of northern Maine, threatening the destruction of one of Maine's outstanding natural resources; and

Whereas, the following legislation is vitally necessary to control this outbreak so as to save 45,000 acres of Maine forest; and

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

**Spruce budworm control. Resolved:** That there is appropriated \$25,313 from the General Fund to be expended by the Forest Commissioner or his agents for spruce budworm control as the state's share with the rest of the funds for control supplied by landowners and the Federal Government; and any unexpended balances shall not lapse but shall remain a continuing carrying account until June 30, 1963.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve shall take effect when approved.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

Serious infestations of the spruce budworm have developed in northern Maine and should be controlled. About 45,000 acres are heavily infested. Control measures are estimated at the rate of \$1.50 per acre.

At a meeting of state, federal and private owner representatives, assurances were received that 25% of the costs including technical assistance in the program would be met by the Federal Government, and 37½% from the landowners in unorganized territory. Thirty-seven and one-half per cent is requested from state funds amounting to \$25,313.

The landowners' cost share of 37½% is already available from a dedicated reserve balance from the 1958 budworm spray project which cannot be used for any other purpose.