

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1234

S. P. 419

In Senate, March 5, 1971

Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Bernard of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

**AN ACT Providing for the Reclamation of Abandoned Forest Produce
on State Property**

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

R. S., T. 27, c. 13, sub-c. III, additional. Chapter 13 of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended by adding a new subchapter III to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER III

REVENUES FROM ABANDONED FOREST PRODUCTS

§ 381. Forest products sunk in navigable waters deemed abandoned and forfeited

All logs, pulpwood and other forest products sunk in the navigable waters of this State shall be deemed abandoned and forfeited to the State.

§ 382. Contracting for removal; procedure

The Department of Finance and Administration, acting through the Bureau of Public Improvements, may from time to time advertise for sealed proposals for removal of abandoned and forfeited forest products from navigable waters and for the sale thereof. Such advertisement, proposals and any contracts entered into in furtherance thereof shall be subject to Title 5, chapters 141 to 155.

§ 383. Disposition of revenues

Twenty-five percent of the revenues derived from the removal and sale of

forest products abandoned in navigable waters shall accrue to the State Museum, and the balance shall accrue to the General Fund.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Logs sunk in the rivers of Maine from log driving operations over the years are a navigational and environmental hazard. This legislation declares these logs abandoned and forfeited to the State, entitles the State to retain and sell them, and provides for disposition of the revenues.