

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2077

H. P. 1684

House of Representatives, January 2, 1974

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Birt of E. Millinocket.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FOUR

AN ACT Providing Funds for Spruce Budworm Control and Surveys.

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

Whereas, a severe outbreak of spruce budworm is present in the forests of northern Maine, threatening destruction in one of Maine's outstanding renewable, natural resources; and affecting environmental, economic and social values; and

Whereas, the infestations are appearing in additional areas of the State to the extent that additional field-survey staff people are needed to gather data upon which action decisions are based; and

Whereas, the following legislation is necessary to protect 430,000 acres of Maine forests; and to provide for expansion of a continuing survey and study program in other areas; 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 enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Appropriation. There is appropriated 2 sums from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund to be expended by the Director of the Bureau of Forestry or his agents.

1. \$723,450 to be expended for (A) spruce budworm presuppression and suppression and research in 1974 and (B) to provide for expanded survey-study programs for the rest of fiscal 1974.

1-A. \$698,750 of the \$723,450 would be for part A. An equal amount or \$698,750 is expected from the U. S. Forest Service. Any unexpended balances shall not lapse but shall remain a continuing, carrying account until June 30, 1975.

1-B. \$24,700 of the \$723,450 would be for Part B broken down into \$8,400 Personal Services, \$1,100 All Other and \$15,200 Capital. Any unexpended balances shall lapse on June 30, 1974.

2. \$36,600 to be expended in fiscal year 1975 to continue the survey-study program broken down into \$31,800 personal services and \$4,800 all other. Any unexpended balances shall lapse on June 30, 1975. No. 2 would be a continuing program, funds for which will be requested of future Legislatures.

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

STATEMENT OF FACT

A severe outbreak of the spruce budworm exists in northern Maine whereby spruce-fir stands need protection on approximately 430,000 acres. In addition, infestations are appearing in new and additional areas which need an expanded survey-study program in order to know if and when protection action is needed.

The United States Forest Service will participate in the costs of protection.