

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 620

S. P. 186

In Senate, February 12, 1975

On motion of Senator Speers of Kennebec, reference reconsidered and referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Trotzky of Penobscot.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE

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**AN ACT Appropriating Funds for Spruce Budworm Control Program  
Research and Assessment Surveys.**

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**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 has developed in the forests of northern Maine, threatening the destruction of one of Maine's outstanding natural resources and threatening the economy and employment of the State; and

Whereas, the following legislation is vitally necessary to control this outbreak so as to save the 3,500,000 acres of Maine forest to be sprayed and the other Maine forest lands which are vulnerable to the spread of this infestation; 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 hereby appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$6,663,162 to be expended by the Director, Bureau of Forestry, or his agents, for spruce budworm control, associated research and assessment surveys. The rest of the funds are to be supplied from the balance of funds in the spruce budworm account and from the Federal Government. Any unex-

pending balances of this appropriation and funds appropriated by the Private and Special Laws of 1973, chapter 194, shall not lapse, but shall remain a continuing carrying account until June 30, 1976.

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

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The propose of this bill is to fund the spruce budworm control program for calendar year 1975. The total cost of the program is estimated at \$3.75 per acre or \$13,125,000. Fifty percent of this will be funded by the Federal Government. The General Fund Appropriation represents 50% of the cost of the control program, plus \$82,662 for research and \$18,000 for assessment surveys needed to improve methods and effectiveness of future operations. Costs of research and assessment surveys are not participated in by the Federal Government.