

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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## Legislative Document

No. 631

H. P. 512

House of Representatives, February 24, 1977

On motion of Mr. Mahany of Easton, referred to Committee on Agriculture. On motion of Mr. Blodgett of Waldoboro, reconsidered reference to Committee on Agriculture and on further motion by same gentleman, referred to Committee on Natural Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Masterton of Cape Elizabeth.

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## STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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### AN ACT to Reestablish the Shade Tree Planting Programs in the Department of Conservation.

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

**Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Forestry the sum of \$80,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1978.

### STATEMENT OF FACT

The appropriation in this bill would fund municipalities up to 50% or a maximum of \$20 per tree for the costs of procuring and planting young trees along road sides and in municipal parks and cemeteries.

Title 12, section 1131 provides that "the State Entomologist and his agents under the supervision of the Director of the Bureau of Forestry may enter into agreement with municipal officials to pay, so far as funds are available, up to 50% of the costs of procuring young tree-planting stock and planting for public shade trees. Whenever the State does contribute funds for this purpose, it shall have the authority to establish requirements for a municipal tree care program and requirements and procedures relative to selecting, planting and initial care of such trees."

Since 1971 the program has funded young trees and provided technical advice on species and planting in 132 communities in the State and in 82

communities last year. Identified as a low priority item, it was eliminated from the departmental appropriation for 1977-78. This special appropriation would restore the program at a minimal level, and would continue to encourage towns and cities to replace dead and dying trees, thus preserving this important natural and aesthetic resource.