

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-960)
109TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "D" to H.P. 1980, L.D. 2015, Bill, "AN ACT to Create the Maine Spruce Budworm Management Act."

Amend the Bill in section 5 in that part designated "§8406." by striking out all of subsection 1 and inserting in its place the following:

'1. Pre-project excise tax. The pre-project excise tax on parcels of softwood forest land shall be \$1.45 per acre for 1980 and 1981. The pre-project excise tax on parcels of mixed-wood forest land shall be 72 $\frac{1}{2}$ per acre for 1980 and 1981. The tax shall be assessed and billed by the State Tax Assessor within 30 days following the effective date of this section for 1980, and on or before April 1, 1981.'

Further amend the Bill in section 7 in subsection 9 by adding at the end 2 new sentences to read:

'Such cost may include, but shall not be limited to, those incurred for environmental and health monitoring and regulation. Any department or agency of State Government is authorized to accept funds which may be available for carrying out the purposes of this subchapter.'

Further amend the Bill in section 10 in that part designated "§8417-A." by adding at the end the following:

'3. Environmental health monitoring. The Bureau of Forestry shall cause to be conducted by an agency other than the Department of Conservation an environmental health monitoring program each year in which a spray project is conducted. The Bureau of Forestry shall prepare and submit an annual report to the Legislature dealing with all aspects of the environmental health monitoring conducted during the previous calendar year.'

Further amend the Bill in section 12 in that part designated "§8424." by adding at the end the following:

'9. Environmental health monitoring. The Bureau of Forestry shall cause to be conducted by an agency other than the Department of Conservation an environmental health monitoring program each year in which a spray project is conducted. The Bureau of Forestry shall prepare and submit an annual report to the Legislature dealing with all aspects of the environmental health monitoring conducted during the previous calendar year.'

Further amend the Bill in section 12 in that part designated "§8428." in subsection 8 by adding at the end 2 new sentences to read:

'Such costs may include, but shall not be limited to, those incurred for environmental and health monitoring and regulation. Any department or agency of State Government is authorized to accept funds which may be available for carrying out the purposes of this subchapter.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment empowers the Department of Conservation to provide for environmental health monitoring of the spruce budworm spray program. This monitoring may be done by any agency other than the Department of Conservation and shall be funded exclusively out of revenues received from excise taxes assessed in connection with the spray project.