

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1559

6
7 H.P. 1171

House of Representatives, May 4, 1983

8 Submitted by the Department of Conservation pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

9 Speaker laid before the House and on Motion of Representative Hall of
Sangerville, referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Sent
up for concurrence and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Michaud of E. Millinocket.

11 Cosponsors: Senator Brown of Washington and Representative Lisnik of
Presque Isle.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT to Create a Forest Resource
18 Assessment and Marketing Program.
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §5106 is enacted to read:

23 §5106. Forest Resource Assessment and Marketing Pro-
24 gram

25 There is created within the Department of Conser-
26 vation a Forest Resource Assessment and Market Pro-
27 gram for the purpose of receiving, processing and
28 analyzing data provided by the United States Forest
29 Service Decennial Forest Resurvey and establishing
30 marketing and utilization programs to address the
31 needs and opportunities presented by the resurvey
32 data, including, but not limited to, developing
33 expanded export markets, encouraging increased use of

1 underutilized species, promoting in-state secondary
2 and value-added processing of Maine wood and paper
3 products and pursuing additional markets for fuel
4 wood and fuel wood chips.

5 Sec. 2. Evaluation and termination. The department
6 shall report to the First Regular Session of the
7 112th Legislature as to the success of this program
8 which shall terminate at the end of fiscal year 1985
9 unless reenacted by the Legislature.

10 STATEMENT OF FACT

11 The United States Department of Agriculture,
12 Forest Service is nearing completion of its decennial
13 statewide forest resurvey.

14 The survey will identify the current status of
15 the forest resource throughout the State, including
16 total biomass and traditional merchantable volumes by
17 species, forest type and region. Knowledgeable pro-
18 fessionals are predicting that the results of this
19 resurvey will indicate significant changes in the
20 availability of merchantable forest volumes through-
21 out the State as a result of increased harvesting and
22 the depredations of the spruce budworm in the last
23 decade.

24 The State has invested \$400,000 in this program
25 to assure comprehensive data collection, which will
26 be of value to public and private resource managers
27 in the State.

28 The resurvey data now must be carefully and
29 intensively analyzed to identify new opportunities
30 for the utilization of currently underutilized spe-
31 cies and sizes of trees. Enhancing the Department of
32 Conservation's ability to analyze and interpret the
33 resurvey data will allow the department to identify
34 and respond to key utilization and marketing oppor-
35 tunities.

36 It is anticipated that the data will generate
37 possibilities for initiatives which are not within
38 the traditional marketing and utilization strategies.
39 This bill provides an infusion of public support to

1 begin to take advantage of these new opportunities.

2 Funding for this bill is contained in the
3 Governor's Part II budget recommendations: \$147,000
4 in fiscal year 1984 and \$148,000 in fiscal year 1985.
5 The recommendation includes Personal Services at
6 \$57,000 and \$58,000, respectively. An annual appro-
7 priation of \$90,000 is recommended for All Other. Two
8 staff positions are created.

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