MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

H.P. 631 House of Representatives, March 20, 1987

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk Presented by Representative NUTTING of Leeds.

Cosponsored by Representatives HUSSEY of Milo, DAVIS of Monmouth and President PRAY of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

1 2 3	AN ACT to Provide for Rural Community Fire Protection.		
4 5	Be it enacted by the People of t	he State of M	Maine as
6 7 8	Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.		
9		1987-88	1988-89
10	CONSERVATION, DEPARTMENT OF		
11	All Other	\$25,000	\$25,000

These funds are to support fire protection programs for municipalities.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

Currently, the Maine Forest Service receives annual grant of nearly \$25,000 for the Rural Community Fire Protection Program. This money is made available to towns throughout the State as 50-50 grants to help local communities strengthen their own fire protection programs. The Forest Service has experienced a steady decline in the amount of the federal money available while at the same time encing a growing demand for grant funds from communities around the State. The Forest Service is now receiving requests totaling more than \$300,000 for only \$25,000 of available funds.

The program is of the greatest value to the small, rural towns in this State and, because it is a 50-50 grant program, a small amount of grant money does help enormously at the local level. The program serves a real need and deserves this additional General Fund support.

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