

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
115TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 892, L.D. 1289, Bill, "An Act to Promote Comprehensive and Consistent Statewide Environmental Policy and Regulation"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §8869, sub-§8, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 555, §10, is amended to read:

8. Relationship to municipal rules and regulations. Nothing in this subchapter may be construed to preempt or otherwise limit the existing authority of municipalities to regulate harvesting, except that municipalities regulating timber harvesting shall adopt definitions for forestry terms used in their ordinances that are consistent with forestry terms adopted by the commissioner pursuant to this subchapter. ~~Municipalities considering the adoption of ordinances regulating timber harvesting shall develop ordinances in consultation with the department.~~ A municipality may not adopt an ordinance that regulates timber harvesting unless the ordinance is developed in consultation with the department and is reviewed by a professional forester prior to adoption.

FISCAL NOTE

The additional local costs from requiring a review of timber harvesting ordinances by a licensed professional forester prior to adoption represent a state mandate that must be reimbursed pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 5684. The General Fund appropriations required to reimburse these costs can not be determined at this time.

2 Costs associated with the Department of Conservation
3 providing assistance to municipalities in developing timber
4 harvesting ordinances will be absorbed utilizing existing
5 budgeted resources.'

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8 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

10 This amendment replaces the original bill. Current law
11 requires that a municipality choosing to adopt a timber
12 harvesting ordinance must develop that ordinance in consultation
13 with the Department of Conservation. This amendment requires a
14 review of the proposed timber harvesting ordinance by a licensed
15 professional forester prior to its adoption.

16 This amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill.

Reported by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
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