

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1995

L.D. 906

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DATE: May 9, 1995

(Filing No. S-124)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

Reported by: Senator CASSIDY of Washington for the Committee.

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
117TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 325, L.D. 906, Bill, "An Act Authorizing the Director of the Maine Forest Service to Dispose of Facilities and Properties of the Bureau of Forestry in Order to Streamline Operations"

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 §8003, sub-§3, ¶M, as amended by PL 1993, c. 335, §1, is further amended to read:

M. The Except for lands acquired under the authority of paragraph N, the director is authorized, with the consent of the commissioner, to sell, grant, lease, transfer or otherwise convey any real or personal property under the jurisdiction of the bureau. The director shall deposit the proceeds from the sale or lease of property purchased with Maine Forestry District tax funds in Forest Fire Control Accounts. This authority does not apply to lands acquired under the authority of paragraph N. Property at the state nursery may be sold for agricultural or forestry purposes if surplus to the needs of the nursery and the proceeds are retained by the Maine Forest Service. The bureau shall transfer the low level radioactive waste site on the state nursery property, along with appropriate buffers and access, to the University of Maine and the University of Maine shall accept the transfer. At least 60 days prior to offering any surplus property for sale under this paragraph, the director shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R 45

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 325, L.D. 906

2 Council and the joint standing committee of the Legislature
3 having jurisdiction over ~~natural~~ forest resources of the
4 director's intent to sell the property.

6 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §8003, sub-§3, ¶M-1** is enacted to read:

8 M-1. The proceeds under paragraph M may be used only to
9 upgrade existing structures owned by the Division of Forest
10 Fire Control, to consolidate operations of the division
11 through the improvement, repair, replacement, purchase or
12 construction of structures and to purchase land upon which
13 to construct structures. Ownership of any land purchased
14 under this paragraph or structures purchased or constructed
15 under this paragraph must be held in the name of the
16 division.'

18 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
19 statement of fact the following:

20 **'FISCAL NOTE**

22 This bill authorizing the Director of the Maine Forest
23 Service to deposit the proceeds from the sale or lease of certain
24 properties owned by the Bureau of Forestry regardless of original
25 funding source into any Forest Fire Control account may represent
26 reductions of General Fund assets when the sale includes property
27 originally purchased with General Fund money. This authorization
28 may also increase dedicated revenue available to Forest Fire
29 Control accounts. The exact amounts can not be determined at
30 this time.'

32 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

34 The amendment replaces section 1 of the bill and adds a new
35 section. It authorizes the Director of the Maine Forest Service
36 to use the proceeds from the sale or lease of any bureau
37 property, except for state forests and natural areas, to upgrade
38 existing structures owned by the Division of Forest Fire Control,
39 to consolidate operations of the division through the
40 improvement, repair, replacement, purchase or construction of
41 structures and to purchase land upon which to construct
42 structures. It also requires that any land purchased and any
43 structures purchased or constructed be held in the division's
44 name.

46 The amendment also changes a reference to the committee to
47 which the Director of the Maine Forest Service must report before
48 offering for sale surplus property. The reference is changed
49 from the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
50

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R. 915

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 325, L.D. 906

2 jurisdiction over natural resources to the joint standing
committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forest
resources.

4

6 The amendment also eliminates obsolete references to the
sale of property at the state nursery and to the transfer of the
low-level radioactive waste site on the state nursery property.

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The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.