

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1996

Legislative Document

No. 1686

S.P. 642

In Senate, January 11, 1996

An Act to Remove the 50-foot Buffer Requirement When Cutting Trees.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26. Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LORD of York.

Cosponsored by Senators: CASSIDY of Washington, FERGUSON of Oxford, KIEFFER of Aroostook, Representatives: BIGL of Bucksport, DEXTER of Kingfield, GOOLEY of Farmington, GOULD of Greenville, POIRIER of Saco.

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

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Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §8869, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 555, §10, is amended to read:

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2. Performance standards for clear-cuts. The commissioner shall establish, by rule, performance standards for clear-cuts, including limitations on size. These standards shall must protect water quality, minimize soil erosion, ensure adequate regeneration, address adverse impacts on wildlife habitat and provide for a healthy and sustainable forest. The commissioner shall incorporate regional variations in developing performance standards that consider growing conditions, tree species and site quality. The commissioner may not establish, by rule, limitations on property owners regarding separation zone standards for clear-cuts.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This bill prohibits the requirement that separation zones be left on sides of a lot when cutting trees.