

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
A.S.

L.D. 1200

DATE: 3-25-98

(Filing No. H-1053)

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MINORITY
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

10 Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of
12 the House.

14 **STATE OF MAINE**
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
16 **118TH LEGISLATURE**
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

18 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 883, L.D. 1200, Bill, "An
20 Act to Reform the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law"

22 Amend the bill by inserting after section 3 the following:

24 **'Sec. 4. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
26 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1998-99

28 **CONSERVATION, DEPARTMENT OF**
30 **Division of Forest Policy and Management**

32 Positions - Legislative Count (4,000)
34 Personal Services \$138,340
36 All Other 94,608

38 Appropriates funds for 3 additional Forester
40 I positions, one additional Clerk
42 Stenographer III position and necessary
operating expenses for the costs of
conducting required audits of forest
management plans.

44 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION**
TOTAL \$232,948'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
summary the following:

6 **FISCAL NOTE**

8 **1998-99**

10 **APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS**

12 General Fund \$232,948

14 The Maine Forest Service within the Department of
16 Conservation will require an additional General Fund
18 appropriation of \$232,948 in fiscal year 1998-99 for 3 additional
20 Forester I positions, one additional Clerk Stenographer III
22 position and necessary operating expenses for the costs of
conducting required audits of forest management plans. The
24 estimated future costs in fiscal years 1999-2000 and 2000-01 will
26 be approximately \$190,980 and \$197,420, respectively.

28 This bill creates new requirements to maintain eligibility
for Tree Growth classification. To the extent that land not in
24 compliance with these new standards is withdrawn, the Tree Growth
26 Tax Reimbursement program will realize General Fund savings. The
amounts can not be estimated at this time.

30 The additional costs to administer these new requirements
for this program can be absorbed by the Bureau of Revenue
32 Services utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

34 **SUMMARY**

36 This amendment is the minority report. It adds an
appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.