

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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TAXATION

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
118TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1478, L.D. 2077, Bill, "An Act to Create an Economic Development and Expansion Zone in Aroostook County"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, to Establish the Task Force to Increase Primary and Secondary Forest Product Manufacturing'**

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

**'Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force to Increase Primary and Secondary Forest Product Manufacturing, referred to in this resolve as the "task force," is established; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That the task force consists of 14 members as follows:

1. The State Tax Assessor;
2. The Director of the State Planning Office;
3. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or the commissioner's designee;
4. One representative of a college or university who has expertise in economic development, appointed by the Governor;
5. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

2           6. Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed  
by the Speaker of the House;

4  
6           7. One representative of the Finance Authority of Maine,  
appointed by the Governor;

8           8. Two representatives of primary forest products  
manufacturing, appointed by the Governor;

10  
12          9. Two representatives of secondary forest products  
manufacturing, appointed by the Governor; and

14          10. One person representing the Maine Congressional  
Delegation, appointed jointly by the members of the delegation.

16  
18          The task force members serve terms that expire April 1, 1999  
or when their task is completed, whichever occurs first.  
20          Vacancies must be filled in the same manner as the original  
appointments were made; and be it further

22          **Sec. 3. Convening of task force. Resolved:** That all appointments  
must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date  
24          of this resolve. The Executive Director of the Legislative  
Council must be notified by the appointing authorities once the  
26          selections have been made. The Executive Director of the  
Legislative Council shall convene the first meeting of the task  
28          force no later than 60 days after the effective date of this  
resolve. The task force shall select a chair from among its  
30          members; and be it further

32          **Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall hold  
public meetings in Aroostook, Washington, Piscataquis, Somerset,  
34          Franklin and Penobscot counties and shall:

36           1. Identify and examine tax credits and incentives,  
including, but not limited to, grants, loan guarantees, tax  
38           expenditures and industrial or economic development revenue bonds  
that may succeed in retaining forest products in this State for  
40           primary and secondary manufacturing;

42           2. Examine proposals for new credits and incentives and any  
limitations imposed by existing laws that hinder the use of these  
44           credits and incentives by primary and secondary forest product  
manufacturers;

46           3. Examine the impact of the North American Free Trade  
48           Agreement on the forest products industry; and

4. Explore any other proposals or strategies that may benefit the State's forest products industry; and be it further

**Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Department of Economic and Community Development shall provide staffing assistance to the task force; and be it further

**Sec. 6. Reimbursement. Resolved:** That the legislative members of the task force are entitled to the legislative per diem and expenses for each day's attendance at meetings of the task force upon application to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council. All members of the task force who are not state or federal employees are entitled to mileage and other necessary expenses for each day's attendance at meetings of the task force upon application to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council; and be it further

**Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That the task force shall submit its report to the First Regular Session of the 119th Legislature, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic and community development matters and the Executive Director of the Legislative Council no later than January 1, 1999. If the task force requires an extension, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension; and be it further

**Sec. 8. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

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**LEGISLATURE**

**Task Force to Increase Primary and Secondary Forest Product Manufacturing**

Personal Services	\$1,760
All Other	10,100

Provides funds for the per diem of legislative members, expenses of members who are not state or federal employees and public meeting and miscellaneous costs of the Task Force to Increase Primary and Secondary Forest Product Manufacturing.

**LEGISLATURE  
TOTAL**

\$11,860'

**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 \$11,860

14 The Legislature will require a General Fund appropriation of  
\$11,860 in fiscal year 1998-99 for the per diem of legislative  
16 members, expenses of members who are not state or federal  
employees and public meeting and miscellaneous costs of the Task  
18 Force to Increase Primary and Secondary Forest Product  
Manufacturing.

20 The state department and agency members of the task force  
22 will incur some minor additional costs to participate. These  
costs can be absorbed within the member agencies' existing  
24 budgeted resources.

26 The additional costs associated with providing staffing  
assistance to the task force can be absorbed by the Department of  
28 Economic and Community Development utilizing existing budgeted  
resources.'

32 **SUMMARY**

34 This amendment replaces the original bill.

36 The amendment creates the Task Force to Increase Primary and  
Secondary Forest Product Manufacturing for the purpose of  
38 exploring and recommending ways to improve the competitive  
position of the forest products industry in this State. The  
40 amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.