

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 397, L.D. 1188, Bill, "An Act to Amend Law Enforcement Powers of Maine Forest Rangers"

Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

Sec. 3. Sale of bullet-proof vests, firearms and related equipment; Department of Conservation. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Commissioner of Conservation shall immediately proceed to sell all bullet-proof vests, firearms, if any, and related equipment, including, but not limited to, ammunition and boxes for storage, purchased by the Department of Conservation since July 1998 for the use of certain Bureau of Forestry employees. The materiel, including, but not limited to, ammunition, boxes for storage, bullet-proof vests and firearms, if any, must be offered at market value to any state, county or municipal law enforcement agency or the Military Bureau of the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management. Proceeds from the sale must be deposited in the General Fund as undedicated revenue. The commissioner shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on the revenue generated by the sale no later than January 15, 2000.

Sec. 4. Prohibition. The Commissioner of Conservation may not purchase bullet-proof vests, firearms or related materiel, including, but not limited to, ammunition and boxes for storage, without specific authorization by the Legislature.'

FISCAL NOTE

Requiring the Commissioner of Conservation to sell purchased bullet-proof vests, firearms and related equipment will generate additional General Fund revenue. The exact amounts can not be determined at this time.

The Department of Conservation will incur some minor costs to report to the Legislature. These costs can be absorbed within the department's existing budgeted resources.

SUMMARY

This amendment requires the Commissioner of Conservation to sell all bullet-proof vests, firearms, if any, and related equipment, if any, purchased by the Department of Conservation for the use of certain Bureau of Forestry employees. Funds generated by the sale will be deposited in the General Fund.

This amendment also requires the commissioner to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs concerning the specific amount of revenue generated by the sale.

This amendment specifically prohibits the Commissioner of Conservation from purchasing bullet-proof vests, firearms and related materiel without explicit legislative authorization.

SPONSORED BY: 
(Representative MARTIN)

TOWN: Eagle Lake