MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1960

H.P. 1362

House of Representatives, March 23, 1999

An Act to Change the Names of Divisions within the Bureau of Forestry to More Accurately Reflect the Roles and Duties of Those Divisions.

Submitted by the Department of Conservation pursuant to Joint Rule 204. Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GOOLEY of Farmington. Cosponsored by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln.

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PART A

Sec. A-1. 5 MRSA §7-B, as repealed and replaced by PL 1993, c. 349, §4 and amended by PL 1995, c. 502, Pt. E, §30, is further amended to read:

§7-B. Use of state vehicles for commuting

A state-owned or state-leased vehicle may not be used by any employee to commute between home and work, except for those vehicles authorized and assigned to employees of the Baxter State Park Authority and to law enforcement officials within the following organizational units: Bureau of State Police; Maine Drug Enforcement Agency; Office of the State Fire Marshal; Bureau of Liquor Enforcement; Bureau of Motor Vehicles; Bureau of Marine Patrol; Bureau of Forestry, Division of Forest Fire-Gentrel Protection; Bureau of Warden Service; and Bureau of Parks and Lands.

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Sec. A-2. 12 MRSA §8003, sub-§3, ¶M, as amended by PL 1997, c. 536, §1, is further amended to read:

M. 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 in-Forest-Fire Gentrel--Aeceunts into the Division of Forest Protection Account. 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 Council and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forest resources of the director's intent to sell the property.

Sec. A-3. 12 MRSA §8003, sub-§3, ¶M-1, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 536, §2, is amended to read:

M-1. The proceeds under paragraph M may be used only to upgrade existing structures owned by the Division of Forest Fire-Gentrel Protection, to consolidate operations of the division through the improvement, repair, replacement, purchase or construction of structures and to purchase land upon which to build structures. Ownership of any land purchased under this paragraph or structures purchased or constructed under this paragraph must be held in the name of the division. Ownership of land or property purchased under

this paragraph may also be held in the name of the Bureau of General Services when the division participates in the consolidation of facilities with other state agencies. Any purchase of land or a structure pursuant to this paragraph must be approved by the Director of the Bureau of General Services.

Sec. A-4. 12 MRSA §8901, sub-§1, as repealed and replaced by PL 1987, c. 769, Pt. A, §51, is amended to read:

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- 1. Appointment. The Director of the Bureau of Forestry shall appoint forest rangers, subject to the Civil Service Law and the State Supervisor, Ferest-Fire-Operations Division of Forest Protection. Rangers assigned to posts at Clayton Lake, St. Pamphile, Estcourt Station, Daaquam, Musquacook Lake, Snare Brook and Baker Lake must be bilingual in French and English.
- Sec. A-5. 16 MRSA §614, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1995, c. 135, §1, is further amended by amending the first paragraph to read:

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Limitation dissemination of intelligence 1. on investigative information. Reports or records that contain intelligence and investigative information and that are prepared by, prepared at the direction of or kept in the custody of a local, county or district criminal justice agency; the Bureau of State Police; the Department of the Attorney General; the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency; the Office of State Fire Marshal; the Department of Corrections; the criminal law enforcement units of the Department of Marine Resources or the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; or the Department of Conservation, Ferest Fire--Gontrol-Division Division of Forest Protection when the reports or records pertain to arson are confidential and may not be disseminated if there is a reasonable possibility that public release or inspection of the reports or records would:

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PART B

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Sec. B-1. Department of Conservation; rename division. The following division is renamed as follows: "Division of Forest Fire Control" is renamed the "Division of Forest Protection."

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Sec. B-2. Department of Conservation; rename division. The following division is renamed as follows: "Division of Insect and Disease Management" is renamed the "Division of Forest Health and Monitoring."

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SUMMARY

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This bill changes the names of the Department of Conservation, Division of Forest Fire Control to the Division of Forest Protection and the Division of Insect and Disease Mangement to the Division of Forest Health and Monitoring to more accurately reflect the responsibilities of each division. The name changes will also better coincide with federal partnerships and receipt of federal support funds.