

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2457

DATE: 3-3-00

(Filing No. H-835)

MAJORITY

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1751, L.D. 2457, Bill, "An Act to Require the State Sealer to Conduct Spot Checks at Timber Mills"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 3. 10 MRSA §2402, sub-§19 is enacted to read:

19. Spot checks. Conduct bimonthly spot checks to sample the accuracy of measurement in wood transactions as defined in section 2361-A and to enforce subchapter II-A.

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

2000-01

AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES,  
DEPARTMENT OF

Division of Quality Assurance and Regulation

Positions - Legislative Count	(1,000)
Personal Services	\$42,613
All Other	5,000
Capital Expenditures	3,000

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1000

2 Appropriates funds for one  
3 additional Consumer  
4 Protection Inspector position  
5 and operating costs necessary  
6 to conduct bimonthly checks  
7 at timber mills for adherence  
8 to timber weights and  
9 measures standards.

10  
11 **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD**  
12 **AND RURAL RESOURCES**  
13 **TOTAL**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\$50,613'

14  
15 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the  
16 summary the following:

17 **FISCAL NOTE**

18  
19 **2000-01**

20  
21 **APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS**

22  
23 General Fund \$50,613

24  
25 The bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$50,613 in  
26 fiscal year 2000-01 to the Division of Quality Assurance and  
27 Regulation within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural  
28 Resources for the costs of one additional Consumer Protection  
29 Inspector position and operating costs necessary to conduct  
30 bimonthly checks at timber mills for adherence to timber weights  
31 and measures standards. The estimated future costs will be  
32 approximately \$54,000 annually beginning in fiscal year 2001-02.

33  
34 The additional workload and administrative costs associated  
35 with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system  
36 can be absorbed within the budgeted resources of the Judicial  
37 Department. The collection of additional fines may increase  
38 General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

39  
40  
41 **SUMMARY**

42  
43 This amendment clarifies that the state sealer is being  
44 directed to do spot checks to determine the accuracy of wood  
45 measurements and to enforce the wood measurement laws. It  
46 removes the specification that the spot checks be random. It  
47 adds an appropriation to provide for enhanced enforcement of wood  
48 measurement laws and also adds a fiscal note to the bill.