

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2000

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Legislative Document

No. 2512

H.P. 1792

House of Representatives, January 24, 2000

**An Act to Create a State-sponsored Voluntary Logger Certification Program.**

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative McKEE of Wayne.  
Cosponsored by Senator DOUGLASS of Androscoggin and  
Representatives: DUGAY of Cherryfield, GILLIS of Danforth, GOODWIN of Pembroke,  
SAMSON of Jay, TRACY of Rome, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, Senator: MILLS of Somerset.

2  
3 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §8004** is enacted to read:

5 **§8004. Voluntary Logger Certification Program**

6  
7 **1. Program developed; core components.** The bureau, in  
8 cooperation with the Maine Technical College System, the  
9 University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service, the University  
10 of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture  
11 and the Maine chapter of the American Red Cross, shall develop a  
12 low-cost, voluntary logger certification program, referred to in  
13 this section as the "program," to be offered at various locations  
14 across the State. The program must include, at a minimum, the  
15 following core components, which must be completed within a  
16 2-year period by the applicant:

17 **A. Standard adult first aid and emergency medical response**  
18 **training;**

19 **B. Best management practices and chain saw safety;**

20 **C. Timber harvesting laws; and**

21 **D. Fundamentals of forestry.**

22  
23 **2. Eligibility.** The following persons are eligible to  
24 participate in the program:

25 **A. A person who is gainfully employed in the harvesting of**  
26 **timber; and**

27 **B. A person who is an owner, contractor or employee of a**  
28 **business whose primary work is the harvesting of timber.**

29 **For purposes of this subsection, the harvesting of timber**  
30 **includes manual or mechanical felling, limbing, bucking,**  
31 **skidding, trucking or chipping of timber.**

32  
33 **3. Reciprocity.** A person who is a resident of New  
34 Hampshire, who is certified by that state's professional loggers  
35 program and who conducts 25% or more of that person's business in  
36 this State may be granted reciprocal logger certification under  
37 this subsection.

38  
39 **4. Term; recertification.** A certificate issued under this  
40 section is valid for a period of 4-years. To maintain continued  
41 certification after the 4-year period has expired, the certified  
42 applicant must complete 24 hours of related continuing education  
43 programs or public service. The bureau shall determine the  
44

2 public service or continuing education programs that qualify for  
3 purposes of recertification.

4 5. Advisory board. An advisory board is established to  
5 assist and advise the bureau in the establishment and  
6 implementation of the program. The advisory board includes, but  
7 is not limited to, one representative each from the following  
8 entities:

10 A. A statewide small woodland owners association of Maine;

12 B. A statewide farm bureau;

14 C. The University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service;

16 D. The University of Maine College of Natural Sciences,  
17 Forestry and Agriculture;

18 E. A statewide professional loggers association;

20 F. The Maine Forest Products Council; and

22 G. A statewide pulpwood association.

## 26 SUMMARY

28 This bill directs the Department of Conservation, Bureau of  
29 Forestry to develop a low-cost, voluntary logger certification  
30 program. The program must include training in first aid and  
31 emergency medical response, best management practices and chain  
32 saw safety, timber harvesting laws and the fundamentals of  
forestry.