

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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A 008

L.D. 2594

DATE: 4-10-00

(Filing No. H-1109)

**MINORITY**  
**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to I.B. 5, L.D. 2594, Bill, "An Act Regarding Forest Practices"

Amend the initiated bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

**FISCAL NOTE**

This is an initiated bill. Unless enacted without change, this bill and any competing bills must be submitted to the voters at the next statewide election. The estimated cost of sending this initiated bill and any competing bills out to referendum will vary according to the total number of referenda to be submitted to the voters in November. The estimated cost to the Secretary of State if one to 6 referenda are submitted is \$121,392. Each additional referendum costs an additional \$8,000.

If enacted by the Legislature without change or if approved by the voters at the November election, the Forest Practices program within the Department of Conservation will require an additional General Fund appropriation of \$720,567 in fiscal year 2000-01 for 2 Senior Planner positions, 10 Forester I positions, one Planning and Research II position and one and a half Clerk Typist III positions and operating costs necessary to administer new forest practice requirements, to adopt certain rules and to provide staffing for the Maine Council on Sustainable Forest Management. This estimate assumes an effective date of August 1, 2000. If this measure is sent out to referendum and approved by the voters, the effective date will be January 20, 2001. Based on this effective date, the General Fund costs for the Department of Conservation will be \$318,038 in fiscal year 2000-01. The estimated future costs in fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03 will

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to I.B. 5, L.D. 2594

be approximately \$715,327 and \$738,560, respectively.

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

### SUMMARY

This amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill.