



## **119th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## **SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2000**

Legislative Document

No. 2622

S.P. 1040

In Senate, March 14, 2000

Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Allow a Well and Waterline Easement.

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BENOIT of Franklin.

Preamble. The Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 23
requires that real estate held by the State for conservation purposes may not be reduced or its uses substantially altered
except on the vote of 2/3 of all members elected to each House.

6 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** Acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after 8 adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

10 Whereas, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife holds a conservation easement on a parcel of land adjacent to the 12 Rangeley River in Rangeley; and

14 Whereas, the conservation easement was acquired from the Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust with funds from the Land for 16 Maine's Future Fund; and

18 Whereas, the Department of Environmental Protection desires to install a well on the parcel, said well to serve as a 20 replacement water supply for several area residents whose existing water supplies have been contaminated by oil; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Authority to convey easement. Resolved: That, in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 30 6209, the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is 32 authorized to enter into an amendment of the conservation easement that the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 34 holds in the Rangeley River conservation corridor and that was acquired with funds from the Land for Maine's Future Fund. The purpose of the amendment must be to allow a well and waterline 36 easement to be granted by the Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust in 38 order to provide potable water to residences and businesses served by wells that either are contaminated or in danger of becoming contaminated by oil that leaked from underground storage 40 tanks in Oquossoc Village.

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**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the 44 preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

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## **SUMMARY**

This resolve authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries 50 and Wildlife to enter into an amendment of the conservation easement in the Rangeley River conservation corridor. The
purpose of the amendment is to allow the Department of
Environmental Protection to develop a potable water supply for
residents of Oquossoc Village in Rangeley, where oil from leaking
underground storage tanks has contaminated several private
drinking water wells.