

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1277, L.D. 1737, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Forester Licensing Law"

Amend the bill in section 4 in that part designated "~~§5506.~~" in the first paragraph in the 2nd line (page 3, line 46 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "Rules" and inserting in its place the following: 'Except where otherwise indicated, rules'

Further amend the bill in section 4 in that part designated "~~§5506.~~" in subsection 3 in the last line (page 4, line 13 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "interest." the following: 'The board may not adopt rules that govern forestry practices.'

Further amend the bill in section 4 in that part designated "~~§5514.~~" by striking out all of subsection 2 (page 7, lines 5 to 10 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'2. Professional qualifications. Each applicant for an intern forester license shall submit evidence of an associate's degree or a bachelor's degree from a curriculum in forestry or of graduation from a postgraduate curriculum in forestry leading to a degree higher than a bachelor's degree in a school or college approved by the board. The board may grant a variance to an applicant who does not hold a degree pursuant to rules adopted by the board. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.'

2 Further amend the bill in section 4 in that part designated
3 "§5514." in subsection 3 in paragraph A in the 2nd line (page 7,
4 line 16 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "education" and
5 inserting in its place the following: 'professional
6 qualification'

8 Further amend the bill in section 4 in that part designated
9 "§5514." in subsection 3 by striking out all of paragraph D (page
10 7, lines 27 to 30 in L.D.)

12 Further amend the bill in section 4 in that part designated
13 "§5515." in subsection 3 in paragraph A in the first line (page
14 8, line 26 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "degree"
15 the following: 'or no degree'

16 Further amend the bill in section 4 in that part designated
17 "§5515." in subsection 10 by inserting after paragraph B the
18 following:

19 'Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are major
20 substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375,
21 subchapter II-A.'

22 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
23 summary the following:

28 FISCAL NOTE

30 Requiring intern foresters to pay a license fee will result
31 in insignificant increases of dedicated revenue to the Board of
32 Licensure of Foresters within the Department of Professional and
33 Financial Regulation.

34 The Board of Licensure of Foresters will incur some minor
35 additional costs to implement the changes in the current methods
36 to qualify for licensure as a forester or intern forester. These
37 costs can be absorbed within the board's existing budgeted
38 resources.'

42 SUMMARY

44 This amendment amends the original bill by prohibiting the
45 Board of Licensure of Foresters from adopting rules governing
46 forest practices. It also authorizes the board to grant a
47 variance to an applicant for an intern forester license who does
48 not hold a college degree. The amendment requires the board to
49 adopt rules for the granting of a variance and designates those
50

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2 rules as major substantive rules pursuant to the Maine Revised
Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A. The amendment
4 also establishes that the rules adopted by the board governing
the registration of foresters who supervise intern foresters are
major substantive rules. It also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT