

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 525

H.P. 410

House of Representatives, February 6, 2003

An Act To Encourage Open Space Preservation

Reference to the Committee on Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative DAIGLE of Arundel.
Cosponsored by Senator MAYO of Sagadahoc and
Representatives: CARR of Lincoln, KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, O'NEIL of Saco, THOMPSON
of China, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, Senator: BROMLEY of Cumberland.

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

4 **CONCEPT DRAFT**
6 **SUMMARY**

8 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

10 The purpose of this bill is to amend the law in ways that
12 allow municipalities to achieve goals such as encouraging open
space preservation, controlling sprawl and supporting affordable
housing.

14 This bill proposes to authorize communities and property
16 owners to negotiate agreements under which a property owner would
receive a reduction in property taxes in return for the property
18 owner's agreement to use the property in a manner benefitting the
town in some manner for a period of 10 years. Under this bill,
20 the property owner could negotiate a reduction in property taxes
in exchange for delaying the development of the land, providing
22 public access for hunting and fishing, or building affordable
housing. Any negotiated agreements reached by the property owner
and the town officials would require approval by the town.