

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1500

S.P. 500

In Senate, April 1, 2003

An Act To Protect the Small Forest Landowners

Submitted by the Department of Conservation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Joy J. O'Brien'.

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRYANT of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Representative JODREY of Bethel and
Representative: PINEAU of Jay.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §8611, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 555,
§8, is amended to read:

6 **1. Forest management information.** The bureau shall provide
a forest management information clearinghouse service with a
8 statewide toll-free number. The information and referral service
shall must include, but is not be limited to:

10 A. Reporting, notification and management requirements
12 pursuant to this chapter;

14 B. Timber and forest management options;

16 C. Soil conservation practices;

18 D. Insect and disease management practices;

20 E. Recreation management options; and

22 F. Wildlife management options.

24 Names, addresses, telephone numbers and electronic mail addresses
26 collected by the bureau for the purpose of contacting forest
landowners owning less than 1,000 acres statewide to provide them
28 with forest management information are designated as confidential
for the purposes of Title 1, section 402, subsection 3, paragraph
30 A. The bureau shall provide copies of the communications to
these landowners using this confidential contact information to
32 the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and forestry matters.

34 **SUMMARY**

36 This bill protects small forest landowners by making
38 confidential addresses and other contact information specifically
collected by the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Forestry
40 in order to give small forest landowners management advice.