

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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January 13, 2005
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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 95

S.P. 37

In Senate, January 11, 2005

**An Act To Support the Department of Conservation, Bureau of
Forestry's Aerial Fire Suppression Program**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative PINEAU of Jay and
Senators: BRYANT of Oxford, RAYE of Washington, Representatives: CARR of Lincoln,
FLOOD of Winthrop, LUNDEEN of Mars Hill, PIOTTI of Unity, SHERMAN of Hodgdon,
SMITH of Monmouth.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §8908** is enacted to read:

6 **§8908. Aerial Fire Suppression Fund**

8 1. Establishment of fund. The Aerial Fire Suppression
10 Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established
12 as a nonlapsing fund under the jurisdiction of the bureau to
14 ensure the viability of its aerial fire suppression program. The
16 bureau may assess charges to agencies of the State for the use of
the bureau's aerial fire suppression resources for purposes other
than fire suppression. The bureau may apply for and accept any
appropriation, grant, gift or service made available from any
public or private source consistent with the purpose of this
section and shall deposit any such money into the fund.

18 2. Use of fund. The bureau may use the fund to purchase
20 aerial fire suppression resources, including helicopters,
airplanes and spare parts, in accordance with the bureau's plan
to diversify and modernize its aerial fire suppression fleet.

22
24 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill establishes a dedicated account within the
28 Department of Conservation, Bureau of Forestry to accept
30 reimbursement funds related to the use of the department's aerial
fire suppression resources. Funds in the account accrue and are
used to upgrade, maintain and support the bureau's aerial fire
suppression fleet.