

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 1368

H.P. 954

House of Representatives, March 17, 2005

An Act To Protect 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.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative CARR of Lincoln.

Cosponsored by Representatives: PIOTTI of Unity, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, SMITH of Monmouth, TWOMEY of Biddeford, Senators: NUTTING of Androscoggin, RAYE of Washington.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §402, sub-§3, ¶M,** as amended by PL 2003, c.
614, §2, is further amended to read:

6 M. Records or information describing the architecture,
8 design, access authentication, encryption or security of
information technology infrastructure and systems. Records
10 or information covered by this paragraph may be disclosed to
the Legislature or, in the case of a political or
12 administrative subdivision, to municipal officials or board
members under conditions that protect the information from
14 further disclosure; and

16 **Sec. 2. 1 MRSA §402, sub-§3, ¶N,** as enacted by PL 2003, c.
614, §3, is amended to read:

18 N. Social security numbers in the possession of the
Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, ; and

20 **Sec. 3. 1 MRSA §402, sub-§3, ¶O** is enacted to read:

22 O. Forest management plans and supporting documentation of
24 forest management activities on private forest lands, when
such documentation is held by the Department of
26 Conservation, Bureau of Forestry for the purpose of
administering landowner assistance programs.

28 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §8883-B, sub-§8** is enacted to read:

30 **8. Confidentiality.** The addresses, telephone numbers and
32 electronic mail addresses of forest landowners owning less than
1,000 acres statewide contained in notifications filed under this
34 section are not public records for the purposes of Title 1,
section 402, subsection 3.

36 **Sec. 5. 36 MRSA §581-E,** as enacted by PL 1989, c. 555, §18,
38 is amended to read:

40 **§581-E. Report to the Bureau of Forestry**

42 The municipal assessor or chief assessor of a primary
44 assessing area shall report to the Bureau of Forestry by November
1, 1990, or 30 days following the tax commitment date, whichever
46 is sooner, and annually thereafter, on forms provided by the
bureau, the following information relating to land taxed
according to this subchapter:

48 **1. Landowner names and addresses.** The names and addresses
50 of landowners;

2 **2. Total acreage.** The total acres taxed pursuant to this
subchapter, including a forest type breakdown by softwood, mixed
wood and hardwood; and

4
6 **3. Year of acceptance.** The year each parcel was first
accepted for taxation under this subchapter; and

8 **4. Year of recertification.** The year of most recent
recertification of each parcel; and

10
12 **5. Identifying information for each parcel listed.** The tax
map number, plan number and lot number for each parcel listed.

14 Addresses, telephone numbers and electronic mail addresses
of forest landowners owning less than 1,000 acres statewide in
16 reports filed under this section are not public records for the
purposes of Title 1, section 402, subsection 3.

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SUMMARY

22 This bill provides confidentiality for forest management
plans and supporting documentation of forest management
24 activities on private forest lands, when such documentation is
held by the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Forestry for
the purpose of administering landowner assistance programs. It
26 also provides confidentiality for the addresses, telephone
28 numbers and electronic mail addresses of forest landowners owning
less than 1,000 acres statewide contained in harvest
30 notifications and reports of assessors to the Bureau of Forestry.