

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

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Legislative Document

No. 1447

H.P. 1016

House of Representatives, March 15, 2007

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**Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural  
Resources To Study Invasive Terrestrial Plant Species**

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative FLOOD of Winthrop.  
Cosponsored by Senator McCORMICK of Kennebec and  
Representatives: EDGECOMB of Caribou, HOLMAN of Fayette, McFADDEN of  
Dennysville, SAVIELLO of Wilton, Senator: RAYE of Washington.

1 **Sec. 1. Study; stakeholders. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Agriculture,  
2 Food and Rural Resources shall convene a stakeholder group to conduct a study to  
3 develop processes and criteria to assess the danger posed to naturally occurring  
4 ecosystems by invasive terrestrial plant species and to determine which invasive plant  
5 species are of significant concern. In conducting the study, the commissioner shall solicit  
6 input from:

- 7 1. The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources;
- 8 2. The Department of Conservation;
- 9 3. The Department of Transportation;
- 10 4. A representative of the nursery industry;
- 11 5. A representative of the horticulture industry;
- 12 6. A representative of greenhouse growers;
- 13 7. A representative of master gardeners;
- 14 8. A plant retailer;
- 15 9. The University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service;
- 16 10. An environmental organization; and
- 17 11. A member of the general public who gardens; and be it further

18 **Sec. 2. Evaluate plants; development of list. Resolved:** That, in conducting  
19 the study under section 1, the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources  
20 shall evaluate plants commonly referred to as "invasive terrestrial plants" for the purpose  
21 of determining which, if any, of these plants should be subject to some form of control by  
22 the Department Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. In consultation with the  
23 stakeholders, the commissioner shall develop a preliminary list of threatening invasive  
24 terrestrial plants and a set of preliminary recommendations for controlling the dispersion  
25 of the plants on this list; and be it further

26 **Sec. 3. Report. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural  
27 Resources shall submit a final report with respect to the study under section 1, including  
28 recommendations and any necessary implementing legislation, no later than February 1,  
29 2008 to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. After  
30 receipt and review of the report the joint standing committee may submit legislation to  
31 the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

32 **SUMMARY**

33 This resolve directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to  
34 convene a stakeholder group to develop processes and criteria to assess the danger posed

1 to naturally occurring ecosystems by invasive terrestrial plant species and to determine  
2 which invasive plant species are of significant concern. The resolve directs the  
3 commissioner to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation  
4 and Forestry.