

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 4-3-12

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
125TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 459, L.D. 1470, Bill, "An Act To Ensure Harvesting of Timber on Land Taxed under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law"

Amend the amendment by inserting before section 1 the following:

'Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §574-B, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2009, c. 434, §15, is further amended to read:

1. **Forest management and harvest plan.** A forest management and harvest plan must be prepared for each parcel and updated every 10 years. The For forest management and harvest plans prepared or updated prior to January 1, 2014, the landowner shall file a sworn statement with the municipal assessor for a parcel in a municipality or with the State Tax Assessor for a parcel in the unorganized territory that a forest management and harvest plan has been prepared for the parcel. Beginning with forest management and harvest plans prepared or updated on or after January 1, 2014, the landowner shall file a copy of the forest management and harvest plan with the municipal assessor for a parcel in a municipality or with the State Tax Assessor for a parcel in the unorganized territory. Upon filing, the plan is a public record pursuant to Title 1, chapter 13, except that the landowner may redact proprietary information from the plan prior to filing. For purposes of this subsection, "proprietary information" means information that is a trade secret or production, commercial or financial information, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive position of the landowner and would make available information not otherwise publicly available.'

Amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

The Maine Tree Growth Tax Law program requires the owner of a parcel of land in the program to file with the municipal assessor, or the State Tax Assessor for land located in the unorganized territory, a sworn statement that a forest management and harvest plan has been prepared for the parcel of land.

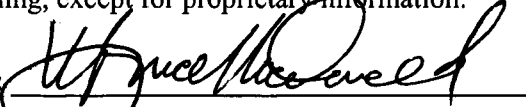
This amendment, beginning with forest management and harvest plans prepared or updated on or after January 1, 2014, requires a landowner participating in the Maine Tree

HOUSE AMENDMENT

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HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 459, L.D. 1470

1 Growth Tax Law program to file a copy of the plan, instead of the sworn statement, with
2 the municipal assessor for the municipality in which the land is located or the State Tax
3 Assessor for property located in the unorganized territory. The plan becomes public
4 information upon filing, except for proprietary information.

5 **SPONSORED BY:** 
6 **(Representative MACDONALD)**
7 **TOWN: Boothbay**

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

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Approved: 04/02/12 *mac*

125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1470

LR 1636(08)

An Act To Ensure Harvesting of Timber on Land Taxed under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law

Fiscal Note for House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A"

Sponsor: Rep. MacDonald of Boothbay

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The amendment provides that the owner of a parcel of land enrolled in the Maine Tree Growth Tax program must file a copy of the forest management and harvest plan prepared for that parcel with the municipal assessor or for the unorganized territories with the State Tax Assessor effective for plans prepared or updated on or after January 1, 2014. The plans becomes public information after filing, except for proprietary information.