

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2012

Legislative Document

No. 1776

S.P. 613

In Senate, January 19, 2012

Resolve, To Streamline Forester Licensing Requirements

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

Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator RECTOR of Knox.

1 **Sec. 1. Streamlining of forester licensing requirements. Resolved:** That
2 the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Board of Licensure of
3 Foresters, referred to in this resolve as "the board," and the Department of Conservation,
4 Maine Forest Service shall examine the licensing requirements for foresters as specified
5 in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 76 for the purpose of streamlining
6 forester licensing requirements. In performing this examination, the board and the Maine
7 Forest Service shall develop recommendations that:

8 1. Simplify the education and experience requirements for obtaining a license as a
9 forester;

10 2. Allow a person who meets specified experience levels and demonstrates
11 knowledge of forestry law to be exempt from the education requirements of Title 32,
12 section 5514, subsection 2; and

13 3. Repeal the requirement of Title 32, section 5515, subsection 3 that an applicant for
14 a forester license complete an internship.

15 The board shall submit the recommendations and implementing legislation to the
16 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forestry matters no
17 later than December 18, 2012 for consideration by the 126th Legislature. The joint
18 standing committee may report out a bill regarding the simplified process.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This resolve requires the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Board
21 of Licensure of Foresters and the Department of Conservation, Maine Forest Service to
22 jointly develop recommendations for simplifying the licensing requirements for foresters,
23 including exempting applicants with a specific level of experience and knowledge from
24 the education requirements and repealing the requirement that foresters complete an
25 internship. The board is required to submit the recommendations and implementing
26 legislation to the 126th Legislature.