

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2014

Legislative Document

No. 1838

S.P. 741

In Senate, March 20, 2014

An Act To Expand Affordable Heating Investments with Maine's Public Resources

(EMERGENCY)

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator YOUNGBLOOD of Penobscot. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** it is necessary to enact this legislation as early as possible to alleviate the
4 burden of high residential heating costs on Maine families; and

5 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
6 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
7 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
8 therefore,

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

10 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §1849, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. A, §24 and
11 Pt. C, §10, is further amended to read:

12 **1. Revenue sources.** Except as provided in paragraph A and Title 35-A, section
13 10124, the bureau must receive all money, securities and other things of value accruing to
14 the State: from the sale of timber and grass and other rights and things of value from the
15 public reserved lands under the care, custody, control or management of the bureau; in
16 payment for timber, grass and other things of value cut or taken by trespassers; from
17 forfeiture of a bond or a deposit when a contractor does not fulfill the terms of the
18 contract or comply with state regulations; or as a result of a compromise or settlement of
19 any claim.

20 A. The first \$20,000 in the aggregate of any money accruing from the alienation of
21 rights to mine upon public reserved land, or other income arising out of mining
22 operations, that is actually received during any fiscal year, and every portion thereof
23 accruing from these mining operations, must be paid to the Division of Geology,
24 Natural Areas and Coastal Resources.

25 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §10124** is enacted to read:

26 **§10124. Affordable Heating from Maine's Forests Fund**

27 **1. Fund established.** The Affordable Heating from Maine's Forests Fund, referred
28 to in this section as "the fund," is established. The fund is a nonlapsing fund administered
29 by the trust in accordance with this section. Any interest earned on funds in the fund
30 must be credited to the fund, and funds not spent in any fiscal year remain in the fund to
31 be used in accordance with this section. The trust receives and deposits in the fund funds
32 from the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund, established in Title 12, section 1849,
33 subsection 2.

34 **2. Funding source.** All money deposited in the fund must be used for investments
35 in measures that reduce residential heating costs. The measures must be consistent with
36 the measures that lower residential heating demand in section 10109, subsection 4,
37 paragraph A. The Treasurer of State shall transfer funds from the Public Reserved Lands
38 Management Fund, established in Title 12, section 1849, subsection 2, to the fund in
39 accordance with this subsection.

