

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DMG
R O P S

MAJORITY

L.D. 1041

Date: 5/27/15

(Filing No. S-128)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

127TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 367, L.D. 1041, Bill, "An Act To Restore Farmlands and Improve Watersheds"

Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF Farmland Restoration Fund N202

Initiative: Provides an ongoing allocation of \$500 to establish the new Farmland Restoration Fund within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2015-16	2016-17
All Other	\$500	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$500</u>

Geological Survey Z237

Initiative: Provides funds for one-time rule-making costs associated with the Farmland Restoration Program.

GENERAL FUND	2015-16	2016-17
All Other	\$2,500	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$2,500</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Geological Survey Z237

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R O F S

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 367, L.D. 1041

1 Initiative: Provides funds for one Public Service Coordinator I position, one half-time
2 Senior Planner position and related All Other costs.

3	GENERAL FUND	2015-16	2016-17
4	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.500	1.500
5	Personal Services	\$85,840	\$116,423
6	All Other	\$7,500	\$10,000
7			
8	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$93,340	\$126,423

9	AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND		
10	FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF		
11	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2015-16	2016-17
12			
13	GENERAL FUND	\$95,840	\$126,423
14	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$500	\$500
15			
16	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$96,340	\$126,923
17			

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This amendment, which is the majority report, adds an appropriations and allocations
20 section to the bill.

21 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

22
23 (See attached)
24

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1041

LR 1127(02)

An Act To Restore Farmlands and Improve Watersheds

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A' (S-128)

Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	Projections FY 2017-18	Projections FY 2018-19
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$95,840	\$126,423	\$131,080	\$135,923
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$95,840	\$126,423	\$131,080	\$135,923
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill establishes the Farmland Restoration Program within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to provide assistance in improving lands for certain purposes. The program provides payments of up to 50% of the cost or \$20,000, whichever is less, to approved restoration projects or 90% of the restoration costs, up to \$20,000, for projects involving state-owned or municipal-owned farmland. This bill creates the Farmland Restoration Fund to make payments under the program. The fund may accept money from any public or private source as its funding. The bill includes a base Other Special Revenue Funds allocation of \$500 annually beginning in fiscal year 2015-16 to allow for expenditure of any funding received. Because no funding is provided in the bill, it also includes General Fund appropriations of \$95,840 in fiscal year 2015-16 and \$126,423 in fiscal year 2016-17 for one Public Service Coordinator I position, one half-time Senior Planner position, one-time rulemaking costs and other related costs to set up and manage the program.

Additional appropriations may be required to accomplish the purposes of this bill if adequate funding is not received from public and private sources. It should be noted that LD 386 is a proposed bond issue in the 127th Legislature and the proceeds could be used for the purposes of this program.