MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5-4-21

(Filing No. H-123)

MAJORITY

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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STATE OF MAINE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

130TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "# " to H.P. 403, L.D. 558, "Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Study Alternative Cropping Systems for Farmers Affected by Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination"

Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Develop a Study Plan Relating to Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination in the Agricultural Sector'

Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; study plan. Resolved: That the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall develop a comprehensive research study plan to identify and aid farmers who are or may be affected by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination. The department shall develop the study plan in consultation with research partners, including, but not limited to, the University of Maine; the University of Maine Cooperative Extension; the Department of Environmental Protection; and the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. In developing the study plan, the department may consult with a statewide organization working to protect the public and the environment from toxic chemicals and a statewide organization representing organic gardeners and farmers. The study plan must include research topic areas that may include alternative agricultural business planning including energy production and alternative cropping systems, study needs, possible roles of state agencies and research collaborators to conduct the work, proposed time frames and a proposed budget and target sources of funding for implementing the plan. The department shall submit a report regarding the comprehensive research study plan, including findings and recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by February 1, 2022.

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

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SUMMARY

This amendment changes the title and strikes and replaces the resolve. The amendment directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to develop a comprehensive research study plan to identify and aid farmers who are or may be affected by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination. The department is required to submit a report regarding the comprehensive research study plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by February 1, 2022.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED (See attached)

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 558

LR 978(02)

Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Study Alternative Cropping Systems for Farmers Affected by Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

Contamination

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment H: (H-123)
Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to consult with the University of Maine System, Department of Environmental Protection or the Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control, regarding the development of a comprehensive research study plan to identify and aid farmers who are or may be affected by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination are anticipated to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.