MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 937

H.P. 693

House of Representatives, March 8, 2021

Resolve, To Facilitate the Provision of Incentives for Soil Carbon Storage

Reference to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT

R(+ B. Hunt

Clerk

Presented by Representative OSHER of Orono.

Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and
Representatives: BLUME of York, DODGE of Belfast, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, SACHS of Freeport, WARREN of Scarborough, ZEIGLER of Montville, Senators: CARNEY of Cumberland, MAXMIN of Lincoln.

Sec. 1. Maine Climate Council; stakeholder group. Resolved: That the cochairs of the Maine Climate Council, established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 577-A, shall convene a stakeholder group to develop recommendations for the establishment of programs and policies designed to incentivize the effective sequestration of carbon in soils by landowners and land managers in the State, including, but not limited to, through the identification and distribution of financial incentives for that purpose. Members of the stakeholder group under this section must include, but are not limited to, members of the Maine Climate Council's working lands working group established pursuant to Title 38, section 577-A, subsection 7, paragraph D.

Sec. 2. Maine Climate Council; report. Resolved: That on or before December 1, 2021, the chairs of the Maine Climate Council shall submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources a report outlining the recommendations of the stakeholder group convened under section 1, including any proposed legislation. After reviewing the report, the committee may report out legislation relating to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the cochairs of the Maine Climate Council, established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 577-A, to convene a stakeholder group to develop recommendations for the establishment of programs and policies designed to incentivize the effective sequestration of carbon in soils by landowners and land managers in the State, including, but not limited to, through the identification and distribution of financial incentives for that purpose. On or before December 1, 2021, the cochairs of the Maine Climate Council are required to submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources a report outlining the stakeholder group's recommendations, including any proposed legislation. After reviewing the report, the committee may report out related legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.