

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1162

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2 Date: 4/27/23 Majority (Filing No. H-78)

3 **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

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5 **STATE OF MAINE**
6 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
7 **131ST LEGISLATURE**
8 **FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

9 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 734, L.D. 1162, "An Act to Protect the
10 Environment by Funding Ash Tree Management"

11 Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

12 **'An Act to Increase Support for the Community Forestry Fund'**

13 Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the
14 following:

15 **'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §8705, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 439, Pt. XXX, §1 and
16 amended by PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §7 and PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. A, §23, is further amended
17 to read:

18 **1. Establishment of fund.** The Community Forestry Fund, referred to in this section
19 as "the "fund," is established as a nonlapsing fund under the jurisdiction of the bureau to
20 promote the community forestry activities in the municipalities of the State. On or before
21 July 31st of each fiscal year, the State Controller shall transfer \$500,000 from the General
22 Fund undedicated revenue to the fund to provide grants to municipalities to address ash
23 tree disease issues and expand tree replacement efforts. The bureau may apply for and
24 accept any appropriation, grant, gift or service made available from any public or private
25 sources consistent with the purpose of this section and shall deposit any such money into
26 the fund.

27 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
28 allocations are made.

29 **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF**

30 **DACF Administration 0401**

31 Initiative: Continues and makes permanent one Entomologist I position previously
32 established in Public Law 2021, chapter 727 to provide technical and educational assistance
33 to municipalities and organizations to address forest pests and diseases and provides
34 funding for related All Other costs.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1	GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
2	All Other	\$0	\$3,292
3			
4	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$3,292</u>
5			
6	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
7	All Other	\$0	\$585
8			
9	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$585</u>
10	Forest Resource Management Z233		
11	Initiative: Provides ongoing funding to the Community Forestry Fund under the Maine		
12	Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 8705 to provide grants to municipalities to address ash		
13	tree disease issues and expand tree replacement efforts.		
14	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
15	All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000
16			
17	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>
18	Forest Resource Management Z233		
19	Initiative: Continues and makes permanent one Entomologist I position previously		
20	established in Public Law 2021, chapter 727 to provide technical and educational assistance		
21	to municipalities and organizations to address forest pests and diseases and provides		
22	funding for related All Other costs.		
23	GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
24	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	0.000	1.000
25	Personal Services	\$0	\$96,300
26	All Other	\$0	\$3,500
27			
28	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$99,800</u>
29			
30	AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND		
31	FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF		
32	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2023-24	2024-25
33			
34	GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$103,092
35	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$500,000	\$500,585
36			
37	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$603,677</u>

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

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SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report, clarifies that the ongoing funding to provide grants to municipalities to address ash tree disease and expand tree replacement efforts be deposited into the Community Forestry Fund, established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 8705. The amendment also provides ongoing funding for a full-time permanent Entomologist I position to provide technical and educational assistance to municipalities and organizations to address forest pests and diseases.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1162

LR 73(02)

An Act to Protect the Environment by Funding Ash Tree Management

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-78)
 Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
 Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Projections FY 2025-26	Projections FY 2026-27
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$500,000	\$603,092	\$606,174	\$609,354
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$103,092	\$106,174	\$109,354
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$500,000	\$500,585	\$500,585	\$500,585
Transfers				
General Fund	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill provides ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$103,092 to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (ACF) starting in fiscal year 2024-25 to switch a temporary Entomologist I position to a permanent position. It includes Other Special Revenue Fund (OSR) allocations of \$585 to ACF starting in fiscal year 2024-25 to fund the IT costs associated with the position. It also includes ongoing OSR allocations of \$500,000 starting in fiscal year 2023-24 to the Community Forestry Fund (CFF) within the ACF to provide grants to municipalities and towns. There is an annual transfer of the same amount starting in fiscal year 2023-24 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the CFF to fund the allocation.