

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 2/26/26

L.D. 1661
(Filing No. H-814)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1102, L.D. 1661, "An Act to Establish a Comprehensive and Interagency Approach to Invasive Species Management"

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

'Resolve, Requiring a Review and Assessment of the State's Invasive Species Management Efforts'

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

'Sec. 1. Review and assessment of State's invasive species management efforts. Resolved: That, within existing budgeted resources, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, referred to in this resolve as "the departments," shall conduct a review and assessment of the State's invasive species management efforts. The departments shall collaborate with the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Marine Resources, other state agencies and local units of government and nongovernmental organizations in conducting the review and assessment. The review and assessment must include a summary of existing interagency working groups and other collaborative efforts focused on invasive species, including, but not limited to, invasive aquatic species and invasive terrestrial plants. In conducting the review and assessment, the departments shall explore opportunities for increased collaboration and efficiency and funding opportunities for projects related to the control and management of invasive species, education and outreach efforts and projects aimed at early detection and prevention of invasive species.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, by January 31, 2027, the departments shall submit a report detailing the results of the review and assessment under section 1, including any findings and recommendations, to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and forestry matters; inland fisheries and wildlife matters; marine resources matters; and environment and natural resources matters. Each joint standing committee may submit legislation to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.'

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This amendment strikes the bill and replaces it with a resolve. The amendment directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Marine Resources, other state agencies and local units of government and nongovernmental organizations, to conduct a review and assessment of the State's invasive species management efforts. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry are required to submit a report detailing the results of the review and assessment to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and forestry matters; inland fisheries and wildlife matters; marine resources matters; and environment and natural resources matters by January 31, 2027. Each joint standing committee may submit legislation to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1661

LR 1076(03)

An Act to Establish a Comprehensive and Interagency Approach to Invasive Species Management

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-814)

Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has indicated that the stakeholder engagement requirements of this bill would require additional staff time. Because the bill requires the work to be completed within existing resources, no additional staff can be added and the work will be absorbed within current resources, which may affect other assigned duties.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has indicated that the stakeholder engagement requirements of this bill would also require additional staff time. Due to the limited duration of the requirements, DEP does not anticipate hiring temporary staff and expects the work to be absorbed within existing resources, which may affect other assigned duties.

Any additional costs to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Marine Resources to implement the provisions of this bill are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.