

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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E I G H T Y - N I N T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 275

S. P. 230

In Senate, February 2, 1939.

Referred to Committee on State Lands and Forest Preservation and sent down for concurrence. 500 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Thatcher of Penobscot.

S T A T E O F M A I N E

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-NINE

**RESOLVE, Appropriating Money for the Study and Control of the
European Spruce Sawfly.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the adjoining Canadian provinces have severe infestations of a European Spruce Sawfly which has heavily damaged the spruce stands in said provinces; and

Whereas, there are outbreaks of this sawfly already in the spruce stands of Maine, it is absolutely essential that control work already started be continued; and

Whereas, other New England States and New York are taking similar action; and

Whereas, work on raising parasites should start early in February of this year, now therefore be it

European Spruce Sawfly, appropriation for control of. Resolved: That there be, and hereby is, appropriated the sum of \$8100 for the period from February 1, 1939 to July 1, 1939 to be expended under the direction of the forest commissioner.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency expressed in the preamble hereof, this resolve shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The widespread outbreak of the European Spruce Sawfly is probably one of the greatest threats that the forests of Maine have ever faced. Already thousands of square miles of spruce have been heavily damaged in the Canadian Provinces adjoining Maine. In many sections of northern and eastern Maine spruce is already being defoliated. Continued defoliation will result in the death of the trees. Twelve thousand dollars in emergency funds were made available by the governor and council this past year so that the rearing and distribution of parasites could be started. Approximately 38,000,000 parasites were raised and released. It is essential that this work be carried on on a larger scale if the spruce is to be saved, and it is planned to raise 100,000,000 parasites in each of the 2 coming years. A laboratory for this work has been constructed by the C. C. C. at no cost to the state. In order to carry out this program which is so essential to the state, funds must be made available so that work can start early in February. The emergency funds requested in this resolve are to carry on the work until the regular appropriation becomes available July 1, 1939.