

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 586

H. P. 1027

House of Representatives, February 9, 1951.

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Potter of Medway.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-ONE

RESOLVE, Authorizing a Tax and Cutting Practice Committee.

Tax and cutting practice committee; appointment; appropriation. Resolved: That a committee be and hereby is created to study forest land tax and cutting practices to be composed of 1 member appointed by the governor, 1 member of the senate appointed by the president of the senate, 1 member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house, the master of the state grange or some grange member appointed by him, a member of the Maine municipal association appointed by their executive committee, the state tax assessor and the state forest commissioner; and be it further

Resolved: That they shall report to the 96th legislature, suggesting measures to correct present forest tax and cutting problems; and be it further

Resolved: That the sum of \$1,000 shall be appropriated from the general fund for travel expenses of committee members and to hire technical assistance. No salary shall be paid members of the committee.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The major natural resource of Maine is its forest lands. In many towns high taxes have caused cutting of immature timber. This has resulted in lower returns from the land and decreasing town valuations.

In 1949 the New Hampshire legislature passed a forest tax and cutting practice law with the purpose of improving such conditions as stated above. Similar legislation needs to be considered in Maine. This committee is proposed for this purpose.