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Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Review of the Land For Maine's Future Board under the Government Evaluation Act March 2008

The Government Evaluation Act

The Government Evaluation Act provides for a system of periodic review of the efficacy and performance of state government agencies (3 MRSA §951 et seq). The keystone of the Act is the agency's program evaluation report that consists of a number of components required by the statute. Essentially, the report is an agency self-assessment, which the committee of jurisdiction uses as a starting point for its evaluation of the agency's effectiveness, efficiency and performance.

Review Process

In May of 2007, the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry notified the Land for Maine's Future Board of its intent to review them pursuant to the schedule established in 3 MRSA, §959. The board submitted its evaluation report in January of 2008.

On February 6, 2008, Tim Glidden, the Executive Director for the Land For Maine's Future Board gave an oral presentation of the report with PowerPoint visuals. At the meeting, Mr. Glidden also provided information on land conservation funding sources for municipalities and local land trusts as required under Resolve 2007, Chapter 108.

Findings and Recommendation

The Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry finds that the board is operating within its statutory authority and true to its mission. The biennial reports received under Title 5, section 6206 provide the ACF committee with timely information on acquisitions, conservation easements, and access. Mr. Glidden presents information in a manner that provides a historical context for the program and an understanding of how the program continues to evolve. Detailed information on the Land For Maine's Future Board can be found in the board's Program Evaluation Report, which meets the criteria set in statute (3 MRSA §956) and through many publications available on LMF's website. http://www.state.me.us/spo/lmf/publications.htm

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