

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

December 2021

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND
FORESTRY**

LD 30 Resolve, Authorizing the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands To Convey a Parcel of Land in Augusta to the Maine Veterans' Homes

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 6 authorizes the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to transfer state property to the Maine Veterans' Homes. In addition, as required by Resolve 1989, chapter 29 and the deed to the Maine Veterans' Homes, the resolve grants approval to the Maine Veterans' Homes to sell its structure with the land it is located on at the corner of Cony Road and Piggery Road in Augusta, County of Kennebec.

LD 33 Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Seek Input from Stakeholders on the State's Hemp Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 32 directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to meet with and seek input from stakeholders on the United States Department of Agriculture Domestic Hemp Production Program requirements. The resolve directs the department to study and monitor other state hemp programs, including states that are following federal hemp program regulations and those that are not in compliance with federal hemp program regulations. The resolve directs the department to submit a report, with findings and recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry no later than December 15, 2021 and gives the joint standing committee authority to submit a bill to the 130th Legislature relating to the subject matter of the report.

LD 34 An Act To Create the Maine Forestry Operations Cleanup and Response Fund

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 63 establishes the Maine Forestry Operations Cleanup and Response Fund, a nonlapsing, dedicated revenue fund for the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry to use to mitigate and remediate water quality violations that result from timber harvesting activities and that require immediate action to prevent or minimize further damage to waters of this State. The fund is replenished by financial penalties, permit fees and other charges associated with timber harvesting, up to a limit of \$20,000.

The law provides that the Maine Forestry Operations Cleanup and Response Fund may be disbursed only to pay the costs, including without limitation payments to contractors undertaking physical mitigation and remediation activities, involved in the control of sediment and water flow, the abatement of pollution and the implementation of remediation activities.