

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 820 Resolve, To Convene a Working Group To Develop Plans To Protect Maine's Agricultural Lands When Siting Solar Arrays

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 26 directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to convene a working group of stakeholders to develop plans and consider ways to discourage the use of land of higher agricultural value and encourage the use of more marginal agricultural lands when siting a solar array. The department must submit its report and recommendations, including any suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology; and the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources no later than January 14, 2022.

LD 870 Resolve, Resolving, Directing the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations To Study the Impact of Policies Regarding Agriculture, Access to Land, Access to Grants and Access to Financing on African-American and Indigenous Farmers in the State

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 27 directs the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations to study the impact of policies regarding agriculture, access to land, access to grants and access to financing on African-American and indigenous farmers in the State. The law directs the commission to report its findings and recommendations from the study required by the resolve to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by January 17, 2022. The Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature relating to the subject matter of the report.

The law also provides one-time funds, \$20,000 in fiscal year 2021-22, for the study.

LD 937 Resolve, To Direct the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Jointly Develop Recommendations Regarding Carbon Storage Programs and Policies

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 28 directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to jointly develop recommendations for the establishment of programs and policies to promote and incentivize, where appropriate, practices that increase sequestration of soil carbon on natural and working lands by farmers, landowners and land managers.