

128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1626

H.P. 1121

House of Representatives, June 1, 2017

Resolve, Authorizing the Bureau of General Services within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services To Assume Ownership of the Forest City Project

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative TURNER of Burlington. (GOVERNOR'S BILL) Cosponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook and Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, FREDETTE of Newport, PERRY of Calais, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, Senators: CARPENTER of Aroostook, MAKER of Washington.

- 1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and
- Whereas, Woodland Pulp LLC currently owns the dam and water storage project,
 known as the Forest City Project, located on the East Branch of the St. Croix River in
 Washington County and Aroostook County; and
- 6 **Whereas,** Woodland Pulp LLC seeks to transfer to the State the Forest City Project, 7 together with associated flowage rights, easements and related facilities; and
- 8 **Whereas,** ownership of this property will allow the State to regulate the level of 9 water in East Grand Lake to ensure recreational and habitat-related purposes; and
- 10 Whereas, this legislation authorizes the State to accept the donation, and it is 11 necessary to expedite this authorization to stay the proceedings related to the application 12 to surrender the dam that is pending at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and
- Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it
- 17 Sec. 1. Forest City Project. Resolved: That the Department of Administrative 18 and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services is authorized to assume ownership of 19 that portion of a dam and water storage project known as the Forest City Project, together 20 with associated flowage rights, easements and related facilities, located on the East 21 Branch of the St. Croix River in Washington County and Aroostook County, from Woodland Pulp LLC. The authorization under this section is limited to that portion of the 22 23 Forest City Project that is located within the territorial limits of the United States; and be 24 it further
- 25 Sec. 2. Project management. Resolved: That the Department of Inland 26 Fisheries and Wildlife shall oversee the management of the Forest City Project acquired 27 under section 1.
- Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
 legislation takes effect when approved.
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- SUMMARY
- This resolve authorizes the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services to assume ownership of the dam and water storage project known as the Forest City Project and requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to oversee the management of the Forest City Project.