

Date: (Filing No. H- )

**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
129TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 464, L.D. 643, Bill, “An Act To Provide Funding to Municipalities Severely Affected by Pest Infestations”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 249 is enacted to read:

**CHAPTER 249**

**MANAGEMENT OF HARMFUL PESTS**

**§791. Harmful pest management; identification**

**1. Harmful pest identification.** The commissioner, in consultation with the State Entomologist, shall identify pests, such as insects and arachnids, including, but not limited to, browntail moths and ticks, that are prevalent in this State and pose a risk of significant harm to human health, referred to in this chapter as "harmful pests."

**2. Harmful pest management.** The commissioner, in consultation with the State Entomologist, may undertake measures determined appropriate by the commissioner to manage harmful pests, including the prevention of breeding of harmful pests. In undertaking management of harmful pests pursuant to this section, the commissioner may contract with an entity outside the department for these services, but any activities must be conducted using a combination of the lowest-risk, most effective, science-based management techniques and technology.

**§792. Maine Harmful Pest Management Fund**

**1. Fund established.** The Maine Harmful Pest Management Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established to carry out the purposes of this chapter. The fund consists of any money received as contributions, grants or appropriations from private and public sources.



1 undertake measures to manage those pests. It also changes the percentage of funds used  
2 for mitigation of infestation in residential properties to be the same as is used for  
3 mitigation of infestation in publicly owned properties.

4 The amendment also establishes the Maine Harmful Pest Management Fund within  
5 the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and  
6 Prevention, Division of Public Health and Emergency Preparedness to provide funds to  
7 municipalities severely infested with harmful pests, to be used in mitigating the  
8 infestations.

9 The amendment specifies that a municipality is required to use 50% of the funding,  
10 rather than 75 percent as proposed in the bill, to mitigate infestation of residential  
11 properties in the municipality where persons with health conditions that can be  
12 exacerbated by the infestation reside and who are unable to pay for treatment of the  
13 infestation. The amendment also specifies that a municipality is required to use the other  
14 50% of the funding, rather than 25% as proposed in the bill, to mitigate infestation of  
15 publicly owned properties in the municipality.

16 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

17 **(See attached)**