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ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 542, L.D. 1468, Bill, “An Act To Establish the High-efficiency Biomass Pellet Boiler Rebate Program and the Home Heating Conversion Fund”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act Regarding the Use of Revenue Generated from Public Reserved Lands'

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

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §1849, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Goals. The Legislature establishes the following goals for the use of revenue received by the division under subsection 1:

A. To the extent practicable, to support the harvest of timber from the public reserved lands up to the sustainable yield on a year-to-year basis in accordance with the requirements of this subchapter;

B. To support land management and public access to public reserved lands; and

C. To support the public purposes identified in this section.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §1849, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 678, §13, is amended to read:

2. Fund established. All income received by the director from the public reserved lands, except income provided for in section 1855, must be deposited with the Treasurer of State to be credited to the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund, which is established as a nonlapsing fund. The purpose of the fund is to support the development of infrastructure to accomplish the goals established in subsection 1-A, paragraphs A and B. Any interest earned on this money must also be credited to the fund.

A. Beginning in fiscal year 2015-16, and biennially thereafter, the director shall determine the amount of funds needed for the purposes of the fund. For fiscal year

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 2015-16, that amount must include \$450,000 to fund the building of infrastructure for
2 land management and public access opportunities.

3 B. Any funds in excess of the amount determined under paragraph A must be
4 identified by the department in the estimates provided pursuant to Title 5, section
5 1665 as available to be allocated to the Efficiency Maine Trust for the purposes of
6 Title 35-A, section 10123. Annually, beginning in 2016, by February 1st the director
7 also shall provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
8 jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and the joint standing committee
9 of the Legislature having jurisdiction over the Efficiency Maine Trust identifying the
10 excess funds that may be allocated to the Efficiency Maine Trust for the purposes of
11 Title 35-A, section 10123.

12 **Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §10123** is enacted to read:

13 **§10123. Affordable residential heating options**

14 The trust shall establish a program to expand affordable residential heating options
15 using funds allocated to the trust from the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund
16 established in Title 12, section 1849. The program must provide funding assistance for
17 new heating system installations and improvements that will significantly reduce
18 residential energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions, as determined by the trust.
19 Consistent with the purposes of the program, the program must provide funding
20 assistance to systems on a technology-neutral basis. In providing assistance under the
21 program, the trust shall consider tax or grant subsidies from the Federal Government.
22 The trust may develop specific programs for regions of the State where options for home
23 heating have the highest cost.

24 **Sec. 4. Temporary energy program.** The Commissioner of Agriculture,
25 Conservation and Forestry shall develop a program to provide funding assistance in fiscal
26 years 2013-14 and 2014-15 to the owners or occupants of residential buildings in this
27 State to install high-efficiency, biomass-fueled, central heating systems or boilers as a
28 primary heating source or to replace outdoor wood boilers that do not meet air quality
29 standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The
30 commissioner shall use funds allocated by the Legislature from the Public Reserved
31 Lands Management Fund established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section
32 1849 to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for this purpose. The
33 commissioner shall develop appropriate application procedures and eligibility standards.
34 Eligible systems under the program must have an efficiency rating of at least 80%.

35 **Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
36 allocations are made.

37 **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF**

38 **Land Management and Planning 0239**

39 Initiative: Provides funding assistance to the owners or occupants of residential buildings
40 in the State to install high-efficiency, biomass-fueled central heating systems or boilers as
41 a primary heating source or to replace outdoor wood boilers that do not meet air quality
42 standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

1	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2013-14	2014-15
2	All Other	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
3			
4	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

5 **Land Management and Planning 0239**

6 Initiative: Provides funding for the building of infrastructure for land management and
7 public access opportunities.

8	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2013-14	2014-15
9	All Other	\$50,000	\$100,000
10	Capital Expenditures	\$150,000	\$245,000
11			
12	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$200,000</u>	<u>\$345,000</u>

13 **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND**
14 **FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF**
15 **DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

16		2013-14	2014-15
17	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$700,000	\$1,345,000
18			
19	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$700,000</u>	<u>\$1,345,000</u>
20			

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This amendment replaces the bill. This amendment:

23 1. Establishes 3 goals relating to the use of revenue from the State's public reserved
24 lands: to support the harvest of timber from the public reserved lands up to the
25 sustainable yield on a year-to-year basis, to support land management and public access
26 to public reserved lands and to support certain heating system programs;

27 2. In fiscal year 2013-14 allocates \$200,000 and in fiscal year 2014-15 allocates
28 \$345,000 from the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund to the Department of
29 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Division of Parks and Public Lands to fund the
30 building of infrastructure for land management and public access opportunities;

31 3. In fiscal year 2013-14 allocates \$500,000 and in fiscal year 2014-15 allocates
32 \$1,000,000 from the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund to the Department of
33 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to fund a program, to be developed by the
34 department, to provide funding assistance to the owners or occupants of residential
35 buildings in this State to install high-efficiency, biomass-fueled, central heating systems
36 or boilers as a primary heating source or to replace outdoor wood boilers that do not meet

1 air quality standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
2 Eligible systems under the program must have an efficiency rating of at least 80%;

3 4. Directs the Efficiency Maine Trust to establish a program to expand affordable
4 residential heating options using funds allocated to the trust from the Public Reserved
5 Lands Management Fund. The program must provide funding assistance for new heating
6 system installations and improvements that will significantly reduce residential energy
7 costs and greenhouse gas emissions, as determined by the trust. Consistent with the
8 purposes of the program, the program must provide funding assistance to systems on a
9 technology-neutral basis. In providing assistance under the program, the trust must
10 consider tax or grant subsidies from the Federal Government. The trust may develop
11 specific programs for regions of the State where options for home heating have the
12 highest costs; and

13 5. Beginning in fiscal year 2015-16 and biennially thereafter requires the Director of
14 the Division of Parks and Public Lands within the Department of Agriculture,
15 Conservation and Forestry to determine the amount of funds needed to support the
16 harvest of timber from the public reserved lands up to the sustainable yield on a year-to-
17 year basis and to support land management and public access to public reserved lands. In
18 fiscal year 2015-16, that amount must include \$450,000 to fund the building of
19 infrastructure for land management and public access opportunities. Any funds in excess
20 of that amount must be identified by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and
21 Forestry in the revenue estimated as available to be allocated to the Efficiency Maine
22 Trust. The director also is directed to provide an annual report to the joint standing
23 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs
24 and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over the
25 Efficiency Maine Trust identifying the excess funds that may be allocated to the
26 Efficiency Maine Trust.

27 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

28 **(See attached)**