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Date: (Filing No. S-)

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 710, L.D. 1979, “An Act To Sustain Good-paying Jobs in the Forest Products Industry by Ensuring Consistency between Comprehensive River Resource Management Plans and State Water Quality Standards”

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

'Resolve, Regarding the Development of Comprehensive River Resource Management Plans'

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

'Sec. 1. Department of Environmental Protection; evaluation of comprehensive river resource management plan development process.

Resolved: That the Department of Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Marine Resources, the Governor's Energy Office and other state agencies as needed, shall evaluate the current process for the development of comprehensive river resource management plans established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 407 to develop findings and recommendations that, at a minimum:

- 1. Identify the agency or agencies that are best positioned to provide appropriate oversight of the plan development and update process;
- 2. Identify the staffing and resources necessary to allow for the timely development and update of the plans required by Title 12, section 407;
- 3. Determine the methods by which the plan development and update process can best provide and account for public participation and input; and
- 4. Provide any other recommendations for the improvement or clarification of the existing process in Title 12, section 407, which may include, but are not limited to, a proposed schedule for the development or update of plans for each watershed for which a plan is required under Title 12, section 407 and an evaluation of options for legislative

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 involvement in the development or update of the plans or legislative review of proposed
2 plans prior to adoption.

3 **Sec. 2. Department of Environmental Protection; report. Resolved:** That,
4 on or before January 15, 2023, the Department of Environmental Protection shall submit
5 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environment and
6 natural resources matters a report outlining its findings and recommendations developed
7 pursuant to section 1, including any proposed legislation. After reviewing the report, the
8 joint standing committee may report out legislation relating to the report to the 131st
9 Legislature in 2023.'

10 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
11 number to read consecutively.

12 **SUMMARY**

13 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, changes the bill into a
14 resolve and changes the title of the bill. It directs the Department of Environmental
15 Protection, in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry,
16 the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Marine Resources, the
17 Governor's Energy Office and other state agencies as needed, to evaluate the current
18 process for the development of comprehensive river resource management plans
19 established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 407 to develop findings and
20 recommendations. The Department of Environmental Protection is directed to submit, on
21 or before January 15, 2023, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
22 jurisdiction over environment and natural resources matters a report outlining those
23 findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, and the joint standing
24 committee is authorized to report out legislation relating to the report to the 131st
25 Legislature in 2023.

26 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

27 **(See attached)**