HP1375, LD 1941, item 2, 123rd Maine State Legislature Amendment C "A", Filing Number H-672

'Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services To Sell the Interests of the State in a Parcel of Property in Frenchville'

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information *cannot* perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

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

'Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services To Sell the Interests of the State in a Parcel of Property in Frenchville'

Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, there is a statewide radio and network system to promote effective and efficient emergency and other radio communication in Maine; and

Whereas, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services may in the next 3 years determine that an existing tower site in Frenchville is no longer needed for the statewide radio network; and

Whereas, an abutting property owner has expressed an interest in purchasing this property; and

Whereas, the department is not compelled by this resolve to sell the property but would be authorized by its passage to sell the site if it was determined by the department to be unnecessary for the purposes of the State; 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

- **Sec. 1 Definitions. Resolved:** That, as used in this resolve, the following terms have the following meanings.
 - 1. "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services.
- 2. "State property" means the real estate described in section 3 with the buildings and improvements, together with all appurtenant rights and easements, and all personal property located on that property, including vehicles, machinery, equipment and supplies; and be it further
- **Sec. 2 Authority to convey state property. Resolved:** That the State, by and through the commissioner, may:
 - 1. Enter into a lease or leases or convey by sale the interests of the State in the state property;
- 2. Negotiate, draft, execute and deliver any documents necessary to settle any boundary line discrepancies;

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- 3. Exercise, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, chapter 3, the power of eminent domain to quiet for all time any possible challenges to ownership of the state property;
- 4. Negotiate, draft, execute and deliver any easements or other rights that, in the commissioner's discretion, may contribute to the value of a proposed sale or lease of the State's interests; and
- 5. Release any interests in the state property that, in the commissioner's discretion, do not contribute to the value of the remaining state property; and be it further
- **Sec. 3 Property interests that may be conveyed. Resolved:** That the state property authorized to be sold or leased is part of Lot No. 97 in Frenchville, Aroostook County. The property begins at a point 83 feet north from the center of Star Barn Road, so-called, and 121 feet west from the west line of Arthur Bourgoin's land, and moves in a northerly direction 100 feet to a stake, then in a westerly direction 100 feet to a stake; then in a southerly direction 100 feet south to a stake; and then in an easterly direction 100 feet to the point of beginning. The property includes a right-of-way 20 feet wide leading from Star Barn Road to the southwest corner of the premises described in this section; and be it further
- **Sec. 4 Property to be sold as is. Resolved:** That the commissioner may negotiate and execute leases and purchase and sale agreements upon terms the commissioner considers appropriate; however, the state property must be sold "as is," with no representations or warranties.

Title must be transferred by quitclaim deed without covenant or release deed except as provided in section 3 and executed by the commissioner.

The commissioner may negotiate with the owner of the abutting land to exchange or otherwise acquire, in the name of the State, by lease, purchase, exchange or otherwise, another suitable section of land for the purpose of siting communications structures and equipment required by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1520; and be it further

- **Sec. 5 Exemptions. Resolved:** That any lease or conveyance pursuant to this resolve is exempt from any statutory or regulatory requirement that the state property first be offered to the Maine State Housing Authority or another state or local agency; and be it further
- **Sec. 6 Appraisal. Resolved:** That the commissioner shall have the current market value of the state property determined by an independent appraiser prior to any sale. The commissioner may list the state property for sale or lease with private real estate brokers at the state property's appraised value and negotiate sales or leases, solicit bids, sell directly to purchasers or enter directly into leases with tenants. The commissioner may reject any offers and may decline to seek any offers; and be it further
- **Sec. 7 Proceeds. Resolved:** That any proceeds from sales pursuant to this resolve must be deposited into the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services' capital repair and improvement account for capital improvements or other account to benefit the statewide radio and network system under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1520 as designated by the commissioner; and be it further
- **Sec. 8 Report. Resolved:** That the commissioner shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters by February 1, 2011 with any actions taken pursuant to this resolve; and be it further

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Sec. 9 Repeal. Resolved: That this resolve is repealed 3 years from its effective date.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the resolve and adds an emergency preamble and clause. The amendment authorizes the sale of a piece of state property. The landowner whose land surrounds the section of property has expressed an interest in purchasing this piece of land. The Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services may sell the State's interest in a parcel of land in Frenchville within the next 3 years if it is determined that it is not necessary for the statewide radio and network system. The commissioner shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters on any action taken pursuant to this resolve by February 1, 2011. The commissioner may also negotiate with the landowner for an alternative site for the radio tower.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED (See attached)