**An Act To Ease Business Expansion by Increasing the Number and Applicability of Permit Exemptions under the Site Location of Development Laws**

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec.** **1. 38 MRSA §488, sub-§7,** as amended by PL 1993, c. 383, §26 and affected by §42, is further amended to read:

**7.** **Exemption for expansion at existing manufacturing facility.**  New construction at a licensed manufacturing facility is exempt from review under this article ~~provided that~~ as long as the additional disturbed area not to be revegetated does not exceed ~~30,000~~ 40,000 square feet ground area in any calendar year and does not exceed ~~60,000~~ 80,000 square feet ground area in total. When review under this article is required at a licensed manufacturing facility, the applicant shall provide plans for the new development, as well as for those activities that have been undertaken pursuant to this subsection. The permittee shall annually notify the department of new construction conducted during the previous 12 months pursuant to this exemption. The notice must identify the type, location and ground area of the new construction.

**Sec.** **2. 38 MRSA §488, sub-§27, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 2011, c. 551, §3, is amended to read:

A. New construction at or a modification of a campus of an educational institution permitted pursuant to this article is exempt from review under this article if the additional disturbed area not to be revegetated does not exceed ~~30,000~~ 40,000 square feet ground area in any calendar year and does not exceed ~~60,000~~ 80,000 square feet ground area in total.

**Sec.** **3. 38 MRSA §488, sub-§29, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 2013, c. 183, §1, is amended to read:

A. The additional disturbed area not to be revegetated does not exceed ~~10,000~~ 40,000 square feet ground area in any calendar year and does not exceed ~~20,000~~ 80,000 square feet ground area in total; and

**Sec.** **4. 38 MRSA §488, sub-§29, ¶B,** as enacted by PL 2013, c. 183, §1, is amended to read:

B. The construction or modification does not involve a division of the parcel of land. For the purposes of this paragraph, the addition of a dwelling unit does not constitute a division of a parcel of land.

**SUMMARY**

Under current law, new construction at a licensed manufacturing facility and new construction at or modification of a campus of an educational institution and of an existing licensed development is exempt from review under the laws governing site location of development if certain criteria are met. This bill amends those exemptions by increasing the square footage criteria under the exemptions.