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Date: (Filing No. H-)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 556, L.D. 870, “An Act Regarding the Membership of the Maine Land Use Planning Commission”

Amend the bill in section 1 in the indented paragraph in the 5th line (page 1, line 8 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "13" and inserting the following: '11'

Amend the bill in section 1 in the indented paragraph in the 5th line (page 1, line 8 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "1" and inserting the following: '1-A'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §683-A, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2013, c. 256, §3, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §683-A, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Appointments by Governor. Except as provided in subsection 2, the Governor shall appoint 2 members to the commission as follows:

A. One appointee who resides or works in the commission's jurisdiction, is a former resident of the commission's jurisdiction or has significant professional experience working within the commission's jurisdiction and who has expertise in one or more of the areas of forestry, land use planning, conservation, fisheries, wildlife, outdoor recreation and natural resources-related businesses that operate in the commission's jurisdiction; and

B. One appointee who is a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State based on the joint recommendation of the federally recognized Indian nations, tribes and bands in the State.'

Amend the bill in section 3 in subsection 2 in the 2nd blocked paragraph in the 2nd line (page 2, line 20 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "90 30" and inserting the following: '90'

Amend the bill in section 3 in subsection 2 in the 2nd blocked paragraph in the last line (page 2, line 22 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "1" and inserting the following: '1-A'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 Amend the bill by inserting after section 3 the following:

2 'Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §683-A, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

3 **2-A. Legislative appointment.** The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
 4 House shall jointly appoint one at-large member to the commission who has a scientific or
 5 technical background in one or more of the areas of forestry, land use planning,
 6 conservation, fisheries, wildlife, outdoor recreation and natural resource-based businesses
 7 that operate in the commission's jurisdiction and through life or work experience
 8 demonstrates knowledge of issues important to the commission's jurisdiction.'

9 Amend the bill by striking out all of section 5.

10 Amend the bill in section 6 in the indented paragraph in the last 3 lines (page 3, lines
 11 21 to 23 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "~~5 7~~ members. ~~No An~~ action may ~~not~~ be
 12 taken by the commission unless upon approval by a vote of ~~5 7~~ members" and inserting the
 13 following: '~~5 members. No action may be taken by the commission unless upon approval~~
 14 by a vote of 5 members a simple majority of commission members'

15 Amend the bill by striking out all of section 7 and inserting the following:

16 '**Sec. 7. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
 17 allocations are made.

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

19 **Maine Land Use Planning Commission Z236**

20 Initiative: Provides one-time funding for laptops and other technology items for 2
 21 additional board members.

22	GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
23	All Other	\$6,850	\$0
24			
25	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$6,850	\$0

26 **Maine Land Use Planning Commission Z236**

27 Initiative: Provides funding for associated administrative overhead for additional board
 28 members.

29	GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
30	All Other	\$9,960	\$9,960
31			
32	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$9,960	\$9,960

33 **Maine Land Use Planning Commission Z236**

34 Initiative: Provides funding for per diem expenses of additional board members.

35	GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
36	Personal Services	\$990	\$990
37			
38	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$990	\$990

39

1	AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND		
2	FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF		
3	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
4			
5	GENERAL FUND	\$17,800	\$10,950
6			
7	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$17,800	\$10,950
8			

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

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, amends the
13 membership of the Maine Land Use Planning Commission by increasing the number of
14 members from 9 to 11, rather than 13 in the bill, with the Governor appointing 2 members;
15 rather than 5 members in the bill. The amendment also directs the President of the Senate
16 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to appoint one member to the commission.

17 Current law provides that if a board of county commissioners fails to appoint a member
18 to the commission within 90 days of a vacancy on the commission to be filled by that
19 county, the Governor is required to appoint a resident of that county meeting certain criteria
20 to fill that vacancy. The bill changes the number of days to 30; the amendment strikes the
21 change in the bill and retains current law.

22 The amendment adds qualifications to be considered by the Governor when appointing
23 members to the commission. The amendment removes from the bill a membership term
24 limit of 2 consecutive 4-year terms. The amendment also removes from the bill the
25 provision relating to staggered terms.

26 The amendment also strikes the requirement in the bill that the Secretary of State
27 include information about the members of the commission in the Secretary of State's annual
28 report on board appointments.

29 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

30 **(See attached)**