



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 511

S.P. 228

In Senate, February 9, 2023

**An Act to Clarify That Haulers Are Under the Jurisdiction of the
Logging Dispute Resolution Board**

Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President JACKSON of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Senators: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, TIPPING of Penobscot,
Representative: ROEDER of Bangor.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §3701, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 665, §4, is amended to
3 read:

4 **4. Forest products harvester or hauler.** "Forest products harvester or hauler" means
5 an individual who qualifies as an independent contractor under section 1043, subsection
6 11, paragraph E and who is engaged in harvesting or hauling trees from forest land for a
7 forest landowner.

8 **Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §3703, sub-§1, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 665, §4, is
9 amended by amending subparagraph (2) to read:

10 (2) One member with experience in dispute resolution and arbitration representing
11 forest products harvesters or haulers from a list submitted by the Maine AFL-CIO
12 or its successor organization; and

13 **Sec. 3. 26 MRSA §3704, first ¶**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 665, §4, is amended to
14 read:

15 The board may hear and decide disputes between a forest products harvester or hauler
16 and forest landowner in accordance with this section related to wage violations, payout
17 amounts, contract violations or disputes related to hiring.

18 **Sec. 4. 26 MRSA §3705**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 665, §4, is amended to read:

19 **§3705. Filing of complaint**

20 **1. Who may file complaint.** A forest products harvester or hauler or forest landowner
21 may file a complaint with the board stating the facts of a dispute. The filing must contain
22 any information as required by the board by rule.

23 **2. Limitation on time to file complaint.** A forest products harvester or hauler or
24 forest landowner may not file a complaint more than 2 years after an alleged dispute.

25 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill applies the provisions governing the State Board of Arbitration and
27 Conciliation, Logging Dispute Resolution Board to persons hauling trees from forest land
28 for a forest landowner.