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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

TO: Senator Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair  
Representative Melanie Sachs, House Chair, and  
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

FROM: Senator Henry Ingwersen, Senate Chair *HI KSN*  
Representative William Pluecker, House Chair, and *BPKSN*  
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

DATE: May 24, 2023

RE: Governor's Proposed Change Package

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The Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (ACF) Committee is pleased to submit the following report for the Governor's proposed change package to LD 258, the Biennial Budget for 2024-2025, and budget initiatives related to Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

The ACF Committee voted unanimously in favor of all initiatives with the exception of one relating to the Board of Pesticides Control and Bureau of Agriculture. This can be found on Page 5 and Page 14.

A majority of committee members voted in favor of keeping the three (3) positions in the General Fund rather than moving those three (3) positions to the Board of Pesticides Control program, Other Special Revenue Fund as proposed in the change package. The positions are: a) one Environmental Specialist III position; b) one part-time Environmental Specialist II position; and c) one part-time Office Associate II position. Representatives Osher, Jauch, Jackson, Pluecker, Shaw, Cray and Guerrette voted in favor and Senator Black voted in opposition.

As evidenced by our March 9, 2023 memo to you regarding the Biennial Budget, the committee voted unanimously in favor of changing the funding source for program positions which were funded by the Board of Pesticides Control, Other Special Revenue funds, to the General Fund. The ACF Committee does not wish to undo this action, which we unanimously supported back in March.

c: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs  
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry