129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document   **No. 1040**

H.P. 770   House of Representatives, February 28, 2019

An Act To Waive the Variance Process for Harvesting Timber in a Shoreland Zone

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

R(t B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative ARATA of New Gloucester.
Cosponsored by Representative: SKOLFIELD of Weld.

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

2   **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §8867-B,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. D, §10, is further
3   amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

4   If a professional forester employed by a landowner determines there exists a
5   condition on the landowner's property adjacent to a river, stream, pond, wetland or tidal
6   water that requires timber harvesting activity that exceeds limits established by rules
7   adopted under this section in order to meet acceptable forestry standards, the landowner
8   may conduct the timber harvesting activity recommended by the professional forester 5
9   business days after the landowner gives notice to the bureau stating the area where the
10   timber harvesting activity is to take place and the name of the professional forester, the
11   professional forester's license number and the professional forester's determination of the
12   need for the timber harvesting activity.

13   **SUMMARY**

14   This bill allows a landowner to conduct timber harvesting activities on property
15   adjacent to a river, stream, pond, wetland or tidal water that exceed limits established by
16   Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry rules if
17   determined necessary by a professional forester in order to meet acceptable forestry
18   standards upon a 5-day notice to the bureau by the landowner stating the area where the
19   timber harvesting activity is to take place, the name of the professional forester, the
20   professional forester's license number and the professional forester's determination of the
21   need for the timber harvesting activity.