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Date: (Filing No. H-)

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
125TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 578, L.D. 771,
Bill, “An Act To Establish the St. John Valley Regional Planning Commission”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, To Support the Development of a Model Charter for the St. John Valley
Regional Planning Commission'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and
inserting in its place the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, in order to provide more time for the development of a charter, this
legislation needs to take effect as soon as possible; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
therefore,

**Sec. 1. Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to
support the process to develop the St. John Valley Regional Planning
Commission charter. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Economic and
Community Development shall invite representatives from the unorganized townships
and following municipalities within Aroostook County to at least 2 meetings to facilitate
the development of a model charter that would establish the St. John Valley Regional
Planning Commission: Caswell Plantation, Cyr Plantation, Fort Kent, Frenchville, Grand
Isle, Hamlin, Limestone, Madawaska, New Canada, New Sweden, St. Agatha,
Stockholm, Van Buren, Wallagrass Plantation and Woodland. The commissioner shall
provide assistance at the meetings to facilitate the development of a model charter for the
St. John Valley Regional Planning Commission and provide assistance with identifying
any regulatory obstacles or impediments to establishing such a charter; and be it further

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, no later than December 5, 2012, the Department
of Economic and Community Development shall provide a report to the joint standing

CONFERENCE AMENDMENT

1 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor, commerce, research and
 2 economic development matters on any meetings held under section 1. The department
 3 shall include with the report recommendations regarding the proposal to establish in law a
 4 charter for the St. John Valley Regional Planning Commission. The joint standing
 5 committee is authorized to submit a bill related to section 1 to the First Regular Session
 6 of the 126th Legislature; and be it further

7 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following
 8 appropriations and allocations are made.

9 **ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**
 10 **Administration - Economic and Community Development 0069**

11 Initiative: Provides one-time funds for the cost associated with staff from the Department
 12 of Economic and Community Development traveling to Aroostook County to provide
 13 assistance at a minimum of 2 meetings to facilitate the development of a model charter
 14 for the St. John Valley Regional Planning Commission.

15	GENERAL FUND	2011-12	2012-13
16	All Other	\$1,700	\$0
17			
18	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$1,700</u>	<u>\$0</u>

19 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
 20 legislation takes effect when approved.'

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This amendment is the report of the Committee of Conference. This amendment
 23 incorporates the provisions of Committee Amendment "A" by replacing the bill with a
 24 resolve directing the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to invite
 25 representatives from unorganized townships and the following municipalities within
 26 Aroostook County to at least 2 meetings to facilitate the development of a model charter
 27 that would establish the St. John Valley Regional Planning Commission: Caswell
 28 Plantation, Cyr Plantation, Fort Kent, Frenchville, Grand Isle, Hamlin, Limestone,
 29 Madawaska, New Canada, New Sweden, St. Agatha, Stockholm, Van Buren, Wallagrass
 30 Plantation and Woodland. It requires the commissioner to provide assistance at the
 31 meetings to facilitate the development of a model charter for the St. John Valley Regional
 32 Planning Commission and provide assistance with identifying any regulatory obstacles or
 33 impediments to establishing such a charter. It requires the Department of Economic and
 34 Community Development to provide a report no later than December 5, 2012 to the joint
 35 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor, commerce, research
 36 and economic development matters on any meetings that were held, as well as any

COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 578, L.D. 771

1 the committee to submit a bill on this issue to the First Regular Session of the 126th
2 Legislature.

3 This amendment also adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause.

4 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

5 **(See attached)**