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Date: (Filing No. H-)

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

HOUSE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 996, L.D. 1454, “Resolve, Reauthorizing the Balance of the 2009 Bond Issue for Land Conservation Projects”

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

'Resolve, Directing the Governor and the Land for Maine's Future Board To Fulfill the Will of Maine Voters and Issue Bonds Approved in 2010'

Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:

Preamble. Whereas, the Land for Maine's Future program, since its establishment in 1987, has conserved more than 560,000 acres of conservation and recreation lands now available to the public for a variety of activities including hunting, hiking, fishing, camping, snowmobiling, picnicking and birdwatching; and

Whereas, the Land for Maine's Future program, throughout its 28-year history, has supported high-paying jobs and strengthened local economies through the permanent protection of over 315,000 acres of commercial forestland, 37 farms and more than 2 dozen working waterfronts; and

Whereas, when asked to ratify Land for Maine's Future bond issues, the majority of Maine voters across the State, urban and rural, northern and southern, regardless of political party, consistently vote yes; and

Whereas, 3 out of every 5 Maine voters, exercising their authority under the Constitution of Maine, ratified Land for Maine's Future bond issues as recently as 2010 and 2012; and

Whereas, the Land for Maine's Future Board, a 9-person committee consisting of the Commissioner of Marine Resources, the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and 6 public members, all nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate, is authorized to distribute funds, set priorities and administer the Land for Maine's Future program; and

Whereas, in July of 2014, the Land for Maine's Future Board made promises in writing to fund 30 projects by committing more than \$9,000,000 in funds ratified by voters in 2010 and 2012; and

HOUSE AMENDMENT

