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**Minority Report OTP-A
(Majority Report ONTP)**

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT TO LD 1549, AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A FOREST
ADVISORY BOARD**

Amend the bill in section 2 as follows:

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §8006 is enacted to read:

§8006. Maine Forest Advisory Board established

The Maine Forest Advisory Board, as established in Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 24-H and referred to in this section as "the board," advises the bureau and provides input in the development, updating and implementation of the state forest action plan required under the federal Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, Public Law 110-234 and Public Law 110-246.

1. Membership. The board consists of ~~18~~ **20** members appointed as follows:

A. Four members who serve in an advisory, nonvoting capacity, appointed by the Governor as follows:

(1) A representative of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife;

(2) A representative of the Department of Marine Resources;

(3) A representative of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands; and

(4) A representative of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Natural Areas Program;

B. ~~Six~~ **Eight** members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

(1) A representative of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension;

(2) A representative of a statewide organization representing the forest products industry;

(3) A representative of an organization of professional logging contractors;

(4) A representative of a commercial landowner that owns a large amount of forested land in the State;

(5) A representative of a nonprofit corporation that owns a large amount of forested land in the State; and

(6) A representative of a cooperative representing loggers in the State; ~~and~~

(7) A representative of a fisheries conservation organization with a statewide presence;

(8) A representative of a statewide organization representing small woodland owners in the State; and

C. Eight members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:

(1) A representative who is a member of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and forestry matters, who serves in an advisory, nonvoting capacity;

(2) A representative of a land trust with a statewide presence;

(3) A representative of a statewide organization dedicated to wildlife issues;

(4) A wildlife biologist with expertise in forest habitat;

(5) An academic with expertise in forest ecology;

(6) A representative of a soil and water conservation district;

(7) A representative of a statewide labor organization; and

(8) A representative who is a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State. The appointment of the member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State must be based on the joint recommendation of the tribal governments of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Motahkomikuk, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik and the Penobscot Nation. If the tribal governments do not make a recommendation or a unanimous joint recommendation, the Speaker of the House shall appoint a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State and rotate the appointment among members of each federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State.

2. Terms; quorum; meetings. Members serve for a term of 3 years. At the end of a term an outgoing member serves until a successor has been appointed. A member may serve multiple terms. The board shall meet at least 4 times a year to conduct business and to elect officers. A quorum consists of at least 10 members. The affirmative vote of a majority of the members present is necessary to decide any business brought before the board.

3. Duties of board. The board shall:

A. Advise the bureau on conditions and trends in the forests of the State;

B. Facilitate dialogue among diverse interests involving forestry matters;

C. Promote cooperation among state agencies involving forestry matters;

D. Advise the bureau on forestry policy development and implementation;

E. Ensure public participation in the development of forestry policy;

F. Provide input in the development, updating and implementation of the state forest action plan required under the federal Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, Public Law 110-234 and Public Law 110-246; and

G. Submit reports to the Legislature on its work under this section.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the minority report, adds two members to the Maine Forestry Advisory Board. The amendment adds one member of a fisheries conservation organization with a statewide presence and one member representing a statewide organization representing small woodland owners in the State.