

130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 937

H.P. 693

House of Representatives, March 8, 2021

Resolve, To Facilitate the Provision of Incentives for Soil Carbon Storage

Reference to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative OSHER of Orono. Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: BLUME of York, DODGE of Belfast, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, SACHS of Freeport, WARREN of Scarborough, ZEIGLER of Montville, Senators: CARNEY of Cumberland, MAXMIN of Lincoln. 1 Sec. 1. Maine Climate Council; stakeholder group. Resolved: That the cochairs 2 of the Maine Climate Council, established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3 38, section 577-A, shall convene a stakeholder group to develop recommendations for the establishment of programs and policies designed to incentivize the effective sequestration 4 5 of carbon in soils by landowners and land managers in the State, including, but not limited 6 to, through the identification and distribution of financial incentives for that purpose. 7 Members of the stakeholder group under this section must include, but are not limited to, 8 members of the Maine Climate Council's working lands working group established 9 pursuant to Title 38, section 577-A, subsection 7, paragraph D.

10 Sec. 2. Maine Climate Council; report. Resolved: That on or before December 1, 11 2021, the chairs of the Maine Climate Council shall submit to the Joint Standing Committee 12 on Environment and Natural Resources a report outlining the recommendations of the 13 stakeholder group convened under section 1, including any proposed legislation. After 14 reviewing the report, the committee may report out legislation relating to the report to the 15 Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

SUMMARY

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17 This resolve directs the cochairs of the Maine Climate Council, established pursuant to 18 the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 577-A, to convene a stakeholder group to 19 develop recommendations for the establishment of programs and policies designed to 20 incentivize the effective sequestration of carbon in soils by landowners and land managers 21 in the State, including, but not limited to, through the identification and distribution of 22 financial incentives for that purpose. On or before December 1, 2021, the cochairs of the 23 Maine Climate Council are required to submit to the Joint Standing Committee on 24 Environment and Natural Resources a report outlining the stakeholder group's 25 recommendations, including any proposed legislation. After reviewing the report, the 26 committee may report out related legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 130th 27 Legislature.