

Amendment to LD 579
An Act to Support Farmland Conservation and Transition Planning for Farmers
Proposed by Senator Brenner
January 11, 2024

Amend the bill by striking the title and inserting the following:

An Act to Support Farmland Conservation

Amend the bill by striking everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §164, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Funding. An account, administered by the department, is established to support public-private partnerships to carry out the purposes of this chapter. The account consists of money appropriated to it or received from any other private or public source. The account shall be non-lapsing, and interest in the account shall be credited to it. Unexpended balances at the end of the fiscal year do not lapse but carry over into the next fiscal year.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF

Bureau of Agriculture 0393

Initiative: Establishes one Resource Management Coordinator position and provides funding for associated All Other costs.

GENERAL FUND	2024-25
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000
Personal Services	\$113,333
All Other	\$ 3,500
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<hr/> \$118,833

DACF Administration 0401

Initiative: Establishes one Resource Management Coordinator position and provides funding for associated All Other costs.

GENERAL FUND	2024-25
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	
Personal Services	\$
All Other	\$ 3.292

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$3,292
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2024-25
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	
Personal Services	\$
All Other	\$ 647
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$ 647

SUMMARY

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. The amendment establishes a separate account administered by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to support public-private partnerships to carry out the purposes of the Maine Working Farmland Access and Protection Program. The account consists of money appropriated to it or received from any other private or public source.

The amendment also establishes and provides ongoing funding for one full-time, permanent position within the department's Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources' division of agricultural resource development.