

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 2/27/14

Minority

(Filing No. H-634)

1
2
3 **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

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5 **STATE OF MAINE**
6 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
7 **126TH LEGISLATURE**
8 **SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

9 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1092, L.D. 1521, "Resolve, Directing
10 the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Create a Pilot Program To
11 Support the State's Small Food Processors"

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

13 **'Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To**
14 **Review Initiatives and Research Opportunities To Support Small Food Processors**
15 **in the State'**

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

18 **'Sec. 1. Review initiatives and research opportunities to support small**
19 **food processors. Resolved:** That the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and
20 Forestry, referred to in this resolve as "the department," shall conduct a review of
21 initiatives that provide assistance to small food processors in this State, including but not
22 limited to programs and initiatives within the department, in other state agencies and
23 public institutions, through nonprofit organizations and in the private sector. The
24 department shall research federal grant opportunities that may be available to provide
25 assistance to small food processors in this State. The department, based on the
26 information collected, shall develop findings and recommendations to further assist small
27 food processors and increase the vitality of the agricultural economy in all areas of this
28 State; and be it further

29 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the department shall present a written report of
30 findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the joint standing
31 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and
32 forestry matters by January 9, 2015. Following receipt of the report, the joint standing
33 committee may submit a bill relating to the subject matter of the report to the First
34 Regular Session of the 127th Legislature; and be it further

35 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following
36 appropriations and allocations are made.

R O F S

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1092, L.D. 1521

1 **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF**
2 **Division of Agricultural Resource Development 0833**

3 Initiative: Provides funding for the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
4 to contract with a firm or university to conduct a survey of small food processors in order
5 to develop and recommend a plan to assist small food processors and strengthen the
6 agricultural economy.

7	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
8	All Other	\$0	\$30,000
9			
10	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$30,000</u>
11			

12 **SUMMARY**

13 This amendment, which is the minority report, strikes and replaces the resolve and
14 changes the title. The amendment directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation
15 and Forestry to review current initiatives that provide assistance to small food processors
16 in the State, to research potential opportunities that may provide assistance to small food
17 processors and to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
18 jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and forestry matters with findings and
19 recommendations no later than January 9, 2015. The joint standing committee may
20 submit a bill relating to the subject matter of the report to the First Regular Session of the
21 127th Legislature. The amendment provides an appropriations and allocations section.

22 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**
23 **(See attached)**



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1521

LR 1697(02)

Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Create a Pilot Program To Support the State's Small Food Processors

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A' (H-634)

Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	Projections FY 2015-16	Projections FY 2016-17
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$30,000	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$30,000	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to conduct research and develop recommendations to assist small scale food processors and strengthen the agricultural economy. The department must research federal grants, review initiatives and present a written report to the Legislature on ways to assist these processors. The bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$30,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 to contract with a firm or university to conduct a needs assessment of the small scale food processors.