

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 113

H.P. 78

House of Representatives, January 8, 2025

An Act to Require Food Labels to Disclose Use of Messenger Ribonucleic Acid Vaccine Material in Food Production

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative SOBOLESKI of Phillips.
Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Oxford and
Representative: SMITH of Palermo.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA c. 101, sub-c. 8** is enacted to read:

3 **SUBCHAPTER 8**

4 **LABELING FOODS FOR MESSENGER RIBONUCLEIC ACID VACCINE**
5 **MATERIAL**

6 **§530-F. Labels for food or food products that include messenger ribonucleic acid**
7 **vaccine material**

8 **1. Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the
9 following terms have the following meanings.

10 **A. "Aquaculture"** has the same meaning as in Title 12, section 6001, subsection 1.

11 **B. "Food or food products"** has the same meaning as in section 282, subsection 2.

12 **C. "Livestock"** has the same meaning as in section 81, subsection 8.

13 **D. "Messenger ribonucleic acid vaccine material" or "mRNA vaccine material"** means
14 **a substance included in a vaccine to stimulate the production of antibodies and provide**
15 **immunity against disease by introducing messenger ribonucleic acid that corresponds**
16 **to a viral protein.**

17 **E. "Poultry"** has the same meaning as in section 1751, subsection 5.

18 **2. Labeling required.** A label must be placed on a food or food product offered for
19 sale in the State derived from aquaculture, livestock or poultry that received mRNA vaccine
20 material. The label must:

21 **A. Contain a clear and concise statement that the food or food product contains mRNA**
22 **vaccine material; and**

23 **B. Be conspicuously and prominently placed in order to be easily seen by the consumer.**

24 **3. Enforcement; rules.** If inspection personnel of the department find that the food or
25 food product is not properly labeled as required by this section, the commissioner shall
26 issue a stop order for the food or food product until it is labeled in accordance with this
27 section.

28 **The department shall adopt rules implementing this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this**
29 **subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.**

30 **SUMMARY**

31 This bill requires that a label be placed on a food or food product offered for sale in the
32 State derived from aquaculture, livestock or poultry that received messenger ribonucleic
33 acid, also known as mRNA, vaccine material.