

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1257

H.P. 832

House of Representatives, March 25, 2025

### **An Act Regarding Labeling of Genetically Engineered Food Products**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative QUINT of Hodgdon.  
Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook and  
Representatives: EDER of Waterboro, GEIGER of Rockland, HENDERSON of Rumford,  
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft, PLUECKER of Warren, STROUT of Harrington, WARREN of  
Scarborough, Senator: GROHOSKI of Hancock.

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

**Sec. 1. 7 MRSA c. 101, sub-c. 7, headnote** is amended to read:

## SUBCHAPTER 7

## LABELING FOODS ~~FREE-OF~~ FOR GENETIC ENGINEERING

**Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §530-A**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. B, §5 and affected by Pt. X, §2, is further amended by amending the section headnote to read:

**§530-A. Voluntary labeling; foods free of genetic engineering**

**Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §530-B** is enacted to read:

**§530-B. Labels required for food or food products that are genetically engineered**

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

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

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

C. "Genetically engineered" has the same meaning as in section 1051, subsection 2.

D. "Livestock" has the same meaning as in section 81, subsection 8.

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

**2. Labeling required.** A label must be placed on a food or food product offered for sale in the State derived from aquaculture, livestock or poultry that is genetically engineered. The label must:

A. Contain a clear and concise statement that the food or food product is genetically engineered; and

B. Be conspicuously and prominently placed in order to be easily seen by a consumer.

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

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

## SUMMARY

This bill requires that a label be placed on a food or food product offered for sale in the State derived from aquaculture, livestock or poultry that is genetically engineered.