# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

### Legislative Document

No. 402

H. P. 300 House of Representatives, January 30, 1973 Referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Mahany of Easton.

#### STATE OF MAINE

# IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-THREE

#### AN ACT Relating to Agricultural Cooperative Agreements.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the control of plant and animal disease is an immediate problem and essential to the well-being of the People of Maine; and

Whereas, the Department of Agriculture has responsibility for the control, quarantine and eradication of such diseases; and

Whereas, the Commissioner of Agriculture may, by statute, now enter into cooperative agreements with public agencies and private enterprises to promote Maine agriculture, but which authority does not specifically embrace plant and animal disease control; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

R. S., T. 7, § 9, amended. The first sentence of section 9 of Title 7 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

The commissioner may enter into agreements or cooperative arrangements with a state or federal agency or with any person, firm or corporation for the purpose of controlling diseases of plants and domestic animals, advertising and increasing the sale and consumption of Maine food products or disseminating information concerning the grade, quality or condition of same, and

supplying inspection and grading services with respect to such food products.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the emergency preamble.