MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 106TH LEGISLATURE

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AMENDMENT" A" to H.P. 1497, L.D. 1924, Bill, "AN ACT Authorizing the Commissioner of Agriculture to Investigate Certain Farming Practices."

Amend said Bill by striking out everything after the amending clause and before the Statement of Fact and inserting in place thereof the following:

'§ 17. Investigation authorized

In addition to duties expressly authorized in this Title, the commissioner may, upon complaint or for other reasonable cause investigate any farm operation, method or practice with respect to animal waste within the watersheds of bodies of water as designated in the Department of Environmental Protection's report known as the "State Continuing Planning Process" pursuant to Title III, section 303 (e) or the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, Amendments of 1972 in order to determine whether such operation, method or practice may have an adverse effect.

When in the opinon of the commissioner such adverse effects are evident, he shall bring such fact to the attention of the appropriate individuals and agencies empowered to restrain such practices and equipped to provide assistance which may bring about necessary improvements in the operation, method or practice cited, The cost of such investigation shall be borne by the State.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to limit the scope of the commissioner's powers.

Reported by the Committee of Conference.

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6/14/73

(Filing No. H-565)