MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 278

S. P. 119

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Jackson of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Livestock Disease Control.

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

7 MRSA § 1756, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 41, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 1756. Appraisal and indemnity

Upon discovery of any contagious or infectious disease among domestic animals, the commissioner may cause the affected or exposed animals to be appraised and destroyed, and a proper disposition of the carcasses made in accordance with rules and regulations made by him, as authorized and provided. The commissioner shall appraise each domestic animal at its true market value at the time it is condemned, provided that no indemnity shall be paid except as established in state-federal cooperative eradication programs for domestic animals and in those amounts as set by those agreements. In no case shall the combined amount received from salvage and state and federal indemnity exceed the amount of appraisal.

No indemnity shall be paid on any domestic animals imported into the State, the importation of which was not in compliance with the laws of the State or rules and regulations in effect at the time of importation.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to limit the State's liability for domestic livestock condemned as diseased to a set amount established by agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture under cooperative eradication programs. Currently, that amount for the State of Maine is up to \$20 (grade animals), \$50 (registered) for brucellosis and \$100 (grade animals) and \$200 (registered) for tuberculosis.