

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
108TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "A " to H.P. 800, L.D. 812, Bill, "AN ACT Concerning Chemical Control of Vertebrate Animals."

Amend the Bill by striking out all of subsection 4 of that part designated "§1471-N." and inserting in its place the following:

'4. Control of rats and mice. The control of rats and mice on public and private property including buildings and municipal dumps, and the control of English sparrows, starlings and pigeons within buildings, is exempt from this section provided that the control is performed in accordance with this chapter, the regulations of the board and the directions on the label of the registered pesticide employed.'

Statement of Fact

Unprotected birds, English sparrows, starlings and pigeons, cause numerous problems within buildings in Maine. Included among such problems are potential for disease transmission when birds roost or feed in food processing or feed milling plants, creation of slippery and hazardous footing on catwalks in aircraft hangars and industrial plants, and consumption of significant amounts of feed grain in livestock and poultry facilities. While many of these situations are amenable to nonchemical control, the judicious use of avicides has been, and should continue to be, available as a tool for the

mitigation of some bird-induced hazards and nuisances. Very few pesticides are registered for bird control and legal use of these materials requires recommendation and direction by government employees experienced in bird control. Chemicals currently in use for this specialized purpose pose minimal hazard for either primary or secondary poisoning of nontarget species.

(Conley)
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