

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-538)  
109TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1269, L.D. 1551, Bill,  
"AN ACT to Establish a Maine Labor Relations Law."

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the  
amending clause and inserting in its place the following:

'CHAPTER 11-A

AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYEES

LABOR RELATIONS ACT

§1011. Findings and purpose

1. Findings. The Legislature finds that labor employees of large agricultural employers in this State would be significantly aided in achieving decent working conditions if they had the right to bargain collectively with their employers.

2. Purpose. It is the purpose of this chapter to provide a mechanism whereby the management and labor of large agricultural concerns may meet, bargain and peacefully arrive at more humane and productive working conditions.

§1012. Definitions

For purpose of this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meanings.

1. Agricultural employee. "Agricultural employee" means one engaged in agriculture, as defined in section 1043, <sup>and in</sup> the United States Labor Management Relations Act, public law 1947, chapter 120, as amended, and <sup>in</sup> the United States Fair Labor Standards Act, public law, 1938, chapter 676, as amended, but shall be limited to only those agricultural employees performing services for agricultural

employers covered under chapter 7, subchapter III, or services for agricultural employers managing, operating, controlling or having an ownership interest in over 4,000 acres of land.

§1013. Right to engage in collective bargaining

In addition to the rights to organize that are held by all Maine employees and are described in section 911, agricultural employers shall bargain collectively when so requested by their organized employees.

§1014. Collective bargaining procedures

1. Rights and duties. If agricultural employees and employers seek to organize and bargain collectively, their rights, duties and procedures, whenever appropriate, shall be the same as the rights, duties and procedures of parties to collective bargaining who are covered under the National Labor Relations Act.

2. Maine Labor Relations Board. If any of the parties to collective bargaining has a complaint as to the action of another party, that party may request a hearing before the Maine Labor Relations Board. Any order of the board as a result of such a hearing is binding on the parties. Either party may seek review of any order by the Superior Court.'

Statement of Fact

The general purpose of this amendment is to provide a simple mechanism whereby employees of large agricultural concerns may bargain collectively with their employers. It would require large agricultural employers to collectively bargain with properly organized employees and would bind both employers and employees to relevant standards of the National Labor Relations Act.

Finally, this amendment would require the Maine Labor Relations Board to resolve any bargaining disputes between employer and employee.

Reported by the Majority of the Committee on Labor  
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the  
Clerk of the House.  
5/30/79 (Filing No. H-538)