

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-810)  
109TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1745, L.D. 1861, Bill,  
"AN ACT to Revise and Strengthen the Bee Industry Law."

Amend the bill by adding after section 3 the following:

'Sec. 3-A. 7 MRSA §2501, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 696, §95, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

Every person using imported bees shipped from another state or country to within this State shall annually notify the commissioner of the location thereof and shall forward to the commissioner for deposit with the Treasurer of State an annual license fee of 25¢ per colony used.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 4 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 4. 7 MRSA §2551, as amended by PL 1977, c. 157, §5, is further amended to read:

§2551. Bee inspectors

The commissioner ~~shall~~ may employ one or more persons qualified by experience and knowledge in beekeeping and detection of bee diseases as inspectors of apiaries, who shall serve during the pleasure of the commissioner. The agricultural entomologist shall be a bee inspector. No person may be a bee inspector who owns more than 40 colonies of bees subject to this Part.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 6 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 6. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

		<u>1980-81</u>
AGRICULTURE, DEPARTMENT OF		
Agricultural Entomologist		
Positions	(1)	
Personal Services		\$11,300
All Other		2,000
Capital Expenditures		<u>700</u>
Total		\$14,000

These funds are to pay the salary and expenses of the newly-created agricultural entomologist. The funds shall be expended as closely as possible in the following proportions: Not less than 2/3 shall be expended to administer educational, promotional and regulatory programs for the state's bee industry, and not more than 1/3 for programs other than for the bee industry. Increased fees from hive owners and users will provide revenue of \$6,000 payable to the General Fund. \$3,200 is already appropriated for per diem for a part-time inspector. The new figures in the appropriation are for an Entomologist I, step A.'

Fiscal Note

Increased fees of this amendment should raise \$6,000 additional payable to the General Fund. \$3,200 is already appropriated for per diem for a bee inspector.

Statement of Fact

This amendment changes the limitation for bee inspectors who are bee owners from 100 colonies to 40. The amendment provides for a 25¢ per colony fee for each imported hive used in the state. This fee is the same as that presently paid by owners of bees within the state. The appropriation is changed to reflect the new fiscal information.

Reported by the Committee on Agriculture  
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