

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)

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 753

H. P. 648

House of Representatives, February 10, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Michael of Auburn.

Cosponsors: Representative Huber of Falmouth, Representative McCollister of Canton and Senator Shute of Waldo.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT to Coordinate Agriculture and Energy Related Activities in State Government.

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

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA § 2, last ¶, 2nd sentence, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 731, § 7, is amended to read:

The commissioner shall promote: Farm financing and rural development proposals; conservation and preservation of agricultural lands; increased and improved production of beef, poultry, sheep, dairy beef and other livestock; expanded and improved production of potatoes, fruits and other vegetables and horticultural ventures; coordinated foreign and domestic marketing of Maine agricultural products; ~~and~~ in conjunction with the university, crop development and integrated pest management; ~~and~~, conservation of nonrenewable energy resources and utilization of renewable energy resources in conjunction with the Maine Office of Energy Resources.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1981-82

AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL
RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF

Personal Services

(1)

\$16,000

All Other

9,000

Total

\$25,000

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to create a new position in its Bureau of Agricultural and Rural Development. This position will establish an information clearinghouse and coordinating capability with regard to energy conservation and renewable energy resource utilization on Maine farms.

Specifically, this position will work in conjunction with the small farm community to promote utilization of solar, wind and alcohol production technologies. This will be accomplished through the coordination of statewide demonstration projects, possibly at the University of Maine experimental farms. In addition, this person will assist the Maine Office of Energy Resources coordinate, on a statewide basis, the Federal Department of Energy's Appropriate Technology Small Grants Program. Finally, this position will assist and advise Maine farmers in agriculture related aspects of renewable energy resources utilization. The above activities will be undertaken in coordination with the Maine Office of Energy Resources.

At the present time, a great deal of interest and activity exists in Maine's agricultural community in the areas of energy conservation and renewable resource utilization. This position will greatly accelerate the distribution of proper technical assistance in these areas.