

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1387

S. P. 485

In Senate, March 19, 1981

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

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Hichens of York.

Cosponsor: Representative Locke of Sebec.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**AN ACT to Provide for Identifying Natural, Nonimitation Food Products sold in the State.**

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

7 MRSA § 552, sub-§ 4 is enacted to read:

4. **Symbol.** The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources may select an appropriate symbol to designate a food found by the department to be a natural food. A person wishing to be permitted to use the symbol must first satisfy the department that the food is natural in compliance with this subchapter. The department may establish a fee for the use of the symbol.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill permits the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to establish, and charge a fee for the use of, a natural food symbol. This will help consumers identify foods which are natural according to the statutory standards.