MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Legislative Document No. 912
S.P. 298 In Senate, February 28, 1983
Submitted by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources
pursuant to Joint Rule 24. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Sent down for concurrence
and ordered printed.
JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate Presented by Senator Wood of York.
Cosponsors: Representative Riley of Shapleigh, Senator Perkins of Han-
cock and Representative Smith of Mars Hill.
STATE OF MAINE
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
AN ACT to Improve the Administration of Agricultural Fairs.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as
follows:
Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §62, sub-§2, ¶¶B and C, as
repealed and replaced by PL 1979, c. 124, §1, are
amended to read:
B. Is duly licensed pursuant to section 65; and
C. Continues to pay \$750 on premiums yearly for
an agricultural display of the prod-
ucts of agriculture exclusive of those for horse and ox pulling contests ; and
and ox putiting conceses: ; and
Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §62, sub-§2, ¶D is enacted to read:

D. Continues to satisfactorily conduct an agricultural fair in accordance with agricultural fair performance standards established by the commissioner in a manner consistent with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375.

 Sec. 3. 7 MRSA $\S65$, first \P , as amended by PL 1977, c. 694, $\S43$, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

No person, agricultural society, association or corporation may hold, conduct or operate agricultural fairs or agricultural exhibitions for competition for premiums or purses within the State without a license for those purposes and only on dates assigned by the commissioner. The application for the license shall be signed and sworn to by the person or executive officer of a society, association or corporation and shall contain such information as the commissioner may require. All fair licenses shall be for a period of 3 calendar years following the date of the application. Applications for licenses under this section shall be received by the commissioner not later than December 1st prior to the period during which the fair is to be held and shall be accompanied by a \$10 license fee. If the commissioner is satisfied that the requirements of this chapter and the rules prescribed by the commissioner have been and will be complied with by the applicant, he may issue a license for that purpose and, in a manner consistent with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, set the dates for which the license is effective.

Sec. 4. 7 MRSA §65-A is enacted to read:

§65-A. Requests for changes in dates

An agricultural society licensed to conduct an agricultural fair may, within 6 months of the date of its license, petition the commissioner for a change in the dates assigned. Upon receipt of the petition, the commissioner shall reconsider the dates assigned, following the same procedure by which the dates were originally assigned, and shall render a decision within 15 calendar days.

An agricultural society licensed to capricultural fair, shall, no later than 60 capricultural fair fair in any year the commissioner of the cancellation or any decrease in the number of days of the fair.	days prior r, advise
6 STATEMENT OF FACT	
This bill includes the recommendations of cial 1981 Task Force representing agricultum and the harness racing industry.	
Section 1 amends the present fair stiper provide that continuing eligibility for sti ment requires that agricultural fairs meet mance standards set by the commissioner aft hearing.	ipend pay- t perfor-
Section 2 extends a fair licensing period 16 year to 3 years.	od from 1
17 Section 3 provides a procedure to change 18 fair dates.	assigned
No significant expenditure of funds i pated because of this bill.	is antici-
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