

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 369

6
7 S.P. 129

In Senate, February 1, 1985

8 Reference to the Committee on Agriculture suggested and ordered
9 printed.

10 JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Black of Cumberland.

11 Cosponsored by Representative Sherburne of Dexter, Senator Erwin of
Oxford and Representative Ridley of Shapleigh.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE
16

17 AN ACT Relating to County Extension Work in
18 Maine.
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §191 is amended to read:

23 §191. Purpose

24 In order to aid in diffusing among the people of
25 this State useful and practical information on sub-
26 jects relating to agriculture, natural resources,
27 family living, youth development, community develop-
28 ment, home economics and rural life and to encourage
29 the application of the same, there may be inaugurated
30 in each of the several counties of the State exten-
31 sion work which shall be carried on in cooperation
32 with the Trustees of the University of Maine, College
33 of Agriculture and the University of Maine at Orono.

1 Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §192 is amended to read:

2 §192. Demonstrations and information

3 Cooperative agricultural extension work shall
4 consist of the giving of practical demonstrations in
5 agriculture, natural resources, family living, youth
6 development, community development and home economics
7 and imparting information on said those subjects
8 through field demonstrations, publications and other-
9 wise. This work shall be carried on in each county in
10 such manner as may be mutually agreed upon by the ex-
11 ecutive committee of the county extension association
12 provided for in section 193, and the trustees of the
13 University of Maine, ~~College of Agriculture~~ the Uni-
14 versity of Maine at Orono, or their duly appointed
15 representatives.

16 Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §193 is amended to read:

17 §193. County extension associations

18 For the purpose of carrying out this chapter,
19 there may be created in each county or combination of
20 2 counties within the State an organization to be
21 known as a "county extension association," and its
22 services available to all residents of a county.
23 Such county extension association shall have adopted
24 a constitution and set of bylaws acceptable to the
25 University of Maine, College of Agriculture, and they
26 shall be recognized as the official body within ~~said~~
27 that county or counties for carrying on extension
28 work in agriculture, natural resources, family liv-
29 ing, youth development, community development and
30 home economics within said that county or counties
31 and in cooperation with the University of Maine, Col-
32 lege of Agriculture at Orono, the county extension
33 association is viewed as an integral part of county
34 government, therefore its function and budget are
35 treated as those of any other department. Such
36 ~~organization~~ The county extension association may
37 make such regulations and bylaws for its government
38 and the carrying on of its work as are not inconsis-
39 tent with ~~said~~ that chapter, provided ~~but~~ that one
40 such organization shall be formed in each county.

41 Sec. 4. 7 MRSA §194 is amended to read:

1 §194. Budget and taxes

2 The executive committee of each county extension
3 association shall annually prepare an annual finan-
4 cial budget for the 12 months beginning January 1st
5 next thereafter, showing in detail its estimate of
6 the amount of money to be expended under this chapter
7 within the county or counties for such 12 months,
8 shall submit the same to a vote of the association at
9 the regular annual meeting and, if the budget is ap-
10 proved by a majority vote of the members of the asso-
11 ciation present at such meeting, the executive com-
12 mittee shall submit the same to the board of county
13 commissioners on a date in December approved by said
14 the county commissioners, and the county commis-
15 sioners may, if they deem it justifiable, include the
16 amount of this budget in the appropriations by them
17 annually recommended, and levy a tax therefor. The
18 amount thus raised by direct taxation within any
19 county or combination of counties for the purposes of
20 this chapter shall be not less than \$1,000 annually
21 per county extension agent provide for the salaries
22 of clerks, provision of office space, supplies,
23 equipment, postage, telephone, a contribution toward
24 the salaries of county agents and such other expenses
25 of county agents and such other expenses as necessary
26 to maintain an efficient and effective county exten-
27 sion program. At the request of the county extension
28 association made on the said date in December, the
29 county commissioners of the county may allow an
30 amount in excess of the minimum specified, which
31 shall be included in the budget and for which a tax
32 shall be levied. These funds shall be used for the
33 maintenance of the county extension service, includ-
34 ing salaries of agents and clerks, office rental,
35 supplies, equipment, postage, telephone and for such
36 other expenses as necessary to maintain an efficient
37 and effective county extension service. Whenever the
38 inhabitants of 2 counties shall unite for organiza-
39 tion in one association, the amount of the tax as-
40 sessed upon each county shall be in the proportion
41 which the last state valuation in that county bears
42 to the total of the last state valuation in the 2
43 counties so united.

44 Sec. 5. 7 MRSA §195 is amended to read:

1 §195. Annual reports

2 It shall be the duty of each said county extension
3 association, annually, ~~on or before the 10th day~~
4 ~~of December~~ as required, to present its plan of ex-
5 tension work for the ensuing year and to render to
6 both the trustees of the University of Maine, College
7 of Agriculture, and the county commissioners a full
8 detailed report of its extension activities for the
9 preceding fiscal year, including a detailed report of
10 its receipts and expenditures from all sources. The
11 financial report of such county extension association
12 shall be on such forms as may be prescribed by the
13 ~~trustees of the~~ University of Maine, ~~College of~~
14 ~~Agriculture at Orono.~~

15 STATEMENT OF FACT

16 The intent of this bill is to make needed revi-
17 sions in the County Extension Act that was passed in
18 1952.

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