

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1921

(Filing No. H-430)

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
113TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1416, L.D. 1921, Bill, "AN ACT to Prevent Potential Nematode Infestation."

Amend the bill by striking out all of the title and inserting in its place the following:

'AN ACT to Prevent Potential Pest Infestation'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, traces of nematode have been found in Prince Edward Island and the varroa mite pest is affecting the beekeeping industry in Maine; and

Whereas, the potato farmers in Maine are most concerned that this infestation may spread to their potato fields and damage their crops and and honeybee beekeepers in Maine must take action to eradicate the varroa mite pest before more damage is done to healthy hives; and

Whereas, it is most necessary to appropriate money in order to support research to prevent any harm to the State's potato crop and to take immediate steps to protect the pollination capacity of the State's honeybee industry; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following

R. of S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1416, L.D. 1921

1 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-
2 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
3 therefore,

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

6 **Appropriation.** The following funds are appropri-
7 ated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes
8 of this Act.

9		<u>1987-88</u>
10	<u>AGRICULTURE, FOOD</u>	
11	<u>AND RURAL RESOURCES,</u>	
12	<u>DEPARTMENT OF</u>	
13	Agricultural Produc-	
14	tion	
15	All Other	\$36,000
16	Capital Expenditures	30,000
17		
18	Total	<u>\$66,000</u>

19 These funds will be
20 used only to prevent
21 the infestation of
22 nematode in the
23 State's potato crop,
24 as well as the
25 varroa mite in the
26 State's bee colonies
27 and for no other
28 purpose. These
29 funds shall not
30 lapse but shall car-
31 ry forward until
32 June 30, 1989.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1416, L.D. 1921

1 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited
2 in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when ap-
3 proved.'

4 STATEMENT OF FACT

5 Traces of nematode have been found in Prince Ed-
6 ward Island. The presence of the nematode pest in
7 Maine would endanger Maine's potato industry. More-
8 over, several bee colonies have been infected with
9 the varroa mite parasite which weakens honeybees and
10 threatens their ability to withstand the winter.
11 This amendment appropriates money for testing soils
12 and for parasite eradication measures to deal with
13 the threat posed by both of these pests.

14

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Reported by the Committee on Agriculture
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House
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