

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(After Deadline)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2394

S.P. 918

In Senate, March 1, 1988

Approved for Introduction by a Majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator RANDALL of Washington.

Cosponsored by Representative TAMMARO of Baileyville, Representative MOHOLLAND of Princeton, Representative FARREN of Cherryfield.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 **AN ACT to Regulate Marketing and**
2 **Bargaining in the Maine Blueberry**
3 **Industry.**
4

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

7 13 MRSA §1957, sub-§3, ¶D, as amended by PL 1987,
8 c. 155, §7, is further amended to read:

1 D. The association, except for an association
2 of blueberry producers, represents 51% of the
3 producers or produced at least 1/2 of the volume
4 of a particular agricultural product for a
5 specific handler involved with those producers and
6 that agricultural product during the previous 12
7 months, not including any volume produced by the
8 handler, its subsidiaries, agents or employees or
9 procured by the handler from sources other than
10 producers; for the purposes of this article,
11 members of farmer cooperatives shall be counted as
12 individual farmer members; in the case of an
13 association of blueberry producers, the
14 association represents 51% of the producers and
15 produced at least 1/2 of the volume of a
16 particular agricultural product for a specific
17 handler involved with those producers and that
18 agricultural product during the previous 12
19 months; if the board has reasonable cause to
20 question such representation, the board shall
21 require a secret ballot election to certify the
22 percentage of representation; and

23 STATEMENT OF FACT

24 This bill includes the blueberry industry in the
25 Maine Agricultural Marketing Bargaining Act of 1973.

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