



114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 607

H.P. 442

House of Representatives, March 6, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative MITCHELL of Freeport. Cosponsored by Representative NUTTING of Leeds, Representative TARDY of Palmyra and Representative LORD of Waterboro.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Protect Working Farms.

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

3 **30-A MRSA §4503, sub-§10** is enacted to read:

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 10. Rezoning working farms. Agricultural zoning of farmland cannot be changed without the written permission of the landowner. The municipal officers shall notify in writing the owner of any farmland on which they propose to change an agricultural zoning designation. The landowner has 90 days to respond in writing with approval for the change. If the landowner does not approve the change, the parcel shall remain in agricultural zoning. For the purposes of this subsection, farmland shall have the same meaning as in Title 7, chapter 2-A.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill proposes to require that changes to the agricultural zoning of working farms be approved by the landowner. It requires the municipal officers to notify the landowner in writing of any proposed changes to the zoning classification of their land. The landowner then has 90 days to 23 approve the change.