

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
115TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 606, L.D. 1610, Bill, "An Act to Require Country of Origin Labeling on Fresh Produce and Labeling of Produce Treated with Post-harvest Treatments"

Amend the amendment by inserting after the title the following:

'Amend the bill by striking out all of the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Remove Sunset Provisions on Laws Relating to the Labeling of Produce, Potato Variety Labeling and Blueberry Theft'

Further amend the amendment in the first paragraph after the title in the first line (page 1, line 17 in amendment) by striking out the following: "Amend" and inserting in its place the following: 'Further amend'

Further amend the amendment in the emergency preamble by inserting after the 2nd paragraph the following:

'Whereas, current law that provides for a potato variety labeling program is due to be repealed on July 1, 1991; and'

Further amend the amendment in the emergency preamble by inserting before the last paragraph the following:

'Whereas, current law that provides appropriate penalties for theft of blueberries is due to be repealed on July 1, 1991; and

Whereas, this law is essential to deter blueberry theft this summer; and'

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SENATE AMENDMENT "A " to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 606,  
L.D. 1610

Further amend the amendment by inserting before section 1  
the following:

'Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §530, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 527,  
§1, is amended to read:

4. Educational program. The Subject to available funding,  
the department shall institute an educational program designed to  
inform the general public about this section. This program shall  
must include, but not be limited to, dissemination of information  
about the countries and produce affected and the pesticides,  
residues and known and potential adverse health effects of those  
pesticides. This dissemination shall must be made by at least  
the following:

A. Brochures to be made available to consumers through  
retail outlets; and

B. Media coverage, such as public service announcements,  
press releases and press conferences.'

Further amend the amendment by inserting after section 1 the  
following:

'Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §1033, sub-§2, ¶I, as enacted by PL 1989, c.  
459, §2, is amended to read:

I. To promote, in cooperation with the commissioner, a  
voluntary program of variety labeling for Maine bags and  
other consumer packs of potatoes. ~~This--paragraph--is  
repealed-July-17,-1991.~~

Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §1034-A, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 459,  
§3, is repealed.'

Further amend the amendment by inserting after section 2 the  
following:

'Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §4318, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 214, §2, is  
repealed.'

Further amend the amendment by striking out all of section 3.

Further amend the amendment by renumbering the sections to  
read consecutively.

Further amend the amendment by striking out all of the  
fiscal note and inserting in its place the following:

**FISCAL NOTE**

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The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources will absorb the costs associated with adopting rules and enforcing the provisions of the country of origin labeling laws and the labeling of produce treated with post-harvest treatments laws utilizing existing budgeted resources. The bill requires the department to institute an educational program under the country of origin laws utilizing only available funds. The department will not need additional resources to continue the potato variety labeling program and the antitheft blueberry laws.

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The additional work load and administrative costs associated with the minimal number of additional cases filed in District Court as a result of the violation will be absorbed within the budgeted resources of the Judicial Department. The collection of additional fines will increase General Fund revenue by a minor amount.' '

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**STATEMENT OF FACT**

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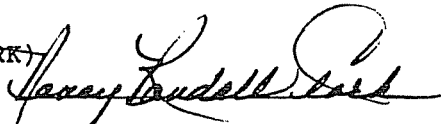
This amendment changes the title of the bill. The amendment repeals additional sunset provisions. The sunset on the potato variety labeling program is repealed. The sunset on laws enacted to reduce the theft of blueberries is repealed. Both have sunset dates of July 1, 1991.

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The amendment also amends the requirement that the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources institute an educational program under the country of origin labeling laws by requiring that program only if funds are available within the reserves of the department. The amendment also deletes the appropriation and replaces the fiscal note.

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(Senator CLARK)  
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(6/10/91) (Filing No. S-336)