MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 979

S.P. 351

In Senate, March 23, 1995

An Act to Amend the Cruelty to Animals Laws by Defining the Term "Undue Suffering".

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

MAY M. ROSS Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HANLEY of Oxford.

Cosponsored by Senators: CASSIDY of Washington, PARADIS of Aroostook.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as fol	lows
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Sec. 1. 7 MRSA $\S4011$, sub- $\S1$, \PA , as enacted by PL 1987, c. 383, $\S3$, is amended to read:

A. Kills any animal belonging to another person without legal privilege or the consent of the owner, or kills or attempts to kill any animal with the owner's consent, by means which that will cause undue suffering. The commissioner shall adopt, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, rules defining "undue suffering." The owner or occupant of property is-privileged to may use reasonable force to eject a trespassing animal;

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to adopt rules defining "undue suffering" as it is used in the statutes prohibiting cruelty to animals.