

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
119TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 736, L.D. 2086, Bill, "An Act to Preserve the State's Farm Economy and Heritage"

Amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§318." in subsection 3 in the blocked paragraph by striking out all of the last 2 sentences (page 2, lines 8 to 13 in L.D.) and inserting in their place the following: 'The department shall pay for outside services contracted as part of an approved services package. The department may not pay more than \$10,000 for outside services contracted as part of the services package to a selected farm. Payment of more than \$5,000 requires the approval of the commissioner. The department shall keep an accounting of the services provided to a selected farm as part of the services package.'

Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§320." in subsection 1 by striking out all of paragraph G (page 3, lines 46 and 47 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'G. Evaluating and reporting annually by March 15th to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters on the impact and effectiveness of the program.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2

2000-01

4

**AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL  
RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF**

6

**Maine Farms for the Future  
Program**

8

10

All Other

\$1,000,000

12

Provides funds to reimburse farms for outside services to develop business plans and for investment support to implement the plans through the Maine Farms for the Future Program. Any balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year may not lapse but must be carried forward to be used for the same purpose.

14

16

18

20

**Division of Market and  
Production Development**

22

24

All Other

\$66,728

26

Provides funds to contract with an organization to administer the Maine Farms for the Future Program.

28

30

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND  
RURAL RESOURCES**

32

**TOTAL**

\$1,066,728'

34

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

36

38

**FISCAL NOTE**

40

2000-01

42

**APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS**

44

General Fund

\$1,066,728

46

This bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 for the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to implement the Maine Farms for the Future Program.

48

50

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 736, L.D. 2086

2 This bill also includes a General Fund appropriation of  
3 \$66,728 in fiscal year 2000-01 for the Department of Agriculture,  
4 Food and Rural Resources to contract with an organization to  
5 administer the Maine Farms for the Future Program. The estimated  
6 General Fund appropriations required to fund the full year costs  
7 will be approximately \$70,356 annually beginning in fiscal year  
8 2001-02.'

10

**SUMMARY**

12 This amendment clarifies that the approval of the  
13 Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources is needed  
14 for a selected farm to receive more than \$5,000 for contracted  
15 services as part of a services package. It specifies that the  
16 annual report by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural  
17 Resources on this program is made to the joint standing committee  
18 having jurisdiction over agricultural matters. The amendment  
also adds an appropriation and a fiscal note to the bill.