

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. of S.

L.D. 2190

2 DATE: May 12, 1999

(Filing No. S- 274)

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6 **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

8 Reported by:

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12
14 **STATE OF MAINE**
SENATE
16 **119TH LEGISLATURE**
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

18
20 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 780, L.D. 2190, Bill, "An
Act to Reestablish the Maine Meat Inspection Act"

22 Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting
the following:

24
26 **'Resolve, to Provide for the Implementation of a Maine Meat
Inspection Program'**

28 Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the
30 title and before the summary and inserting in its place the
following:

32 **'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves of the**
34 **Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after**
adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

36 **Whereas, a meat inspection program is needed to help Maine**
38 **producers located in rural areas of the State compete more**
successfully; and

40 **Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts**
42 **create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of**
44 **Maine and require the following legislation as immediately**
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
safety; now, therefore, be it

46 **Sec. 1. Implementation study authorized. Resolved:** That the
48 Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources shall develop
a plan to implement a Maine meat inspection program that is at
least equal to federal standards for meat inspection. The
50 department shall:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R. O. S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 780, L.D. 2190

1. Survey existing custom slaughterhouses to assess interest in upgrading their facilities to meet retail standards and assist those interested in developing a plan to upgrade their facilities, including cost estimates for the upgrade;

2. Assess the potential market for custom slaughterhouses to sell Maine-inspected meat to determine the level of business likely to be created by upgrading;

3. Draft legislation to establish a Maine meat inspection program that will allow Maine-inspected meat to be sold in commerce;

4. Develop a plan to finance the implementation of a Maine meat inspection program;

5. Assess potential relationships between a State meat inspection program and the federal meat inspection program and make a recommendation as to the optimal relationship between them; and

6. Work with producers, processors and retailers to develop any other actions or recommendations to increase the volume of Maine-produced meat processed in this State and available for retail sale; and be it further

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources shall report its findings and recommendations, including any legislation necessary to implement those recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by January 3, 2000. The committee may submit legislation relating to a Maine meat inspection program during the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature; and be it further

Sec. 3. Appropriation. Resolved: That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

1999-00

AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF

Division of Quality Assurance and Regulation

All Other \$70,000

Appropriates funds to research the

reinstatement of a Maine meat inspection program.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.'

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

FISCAL NOTE

1999-00

APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

General Fund \$70,000

This resolve includes a General Fund appropriation of \$70,000 in fiscal year 1999-00 for the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to research the reinstatement of a Maine meat inspection program.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the original bill. It changes the bill into a resolve directing the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to study and develop an implementation plan for a Maine meat inspection program. The department shall make recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by January 3, 2000. The committee may report out legislation as a result of this report. The department is appropriated \$70,000 to carry out this study. This amendment also adds an emergency preamble, emergency clause and a fiscal note.