

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1371

H.P. 1022

House of Representatives, March 5, 2001

An Act to Establish the Dairy Industry Fund.

(EMERGENCY)

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

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative WESTON of Montville.
Cosponsored by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln and
Representatives: BUMPS of China, CARR of Lincoln, GREEN of Monmouth, McKEE of
Wayne, STANLEY of Medway, TESSIER of Fairfield, Senators: KNEELAND of Aroostook,
MILLS of Somerset.

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

Whereas, this legislation must take effect immediately in order that the fund established in this measure can begin to accrue money for distribution by the Maine Milk Commission; and

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

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

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §2956-A is enacted to read:

§2956-A. Dairy Industry Fund

1. Fund established; source. The Dairy Industry Fund, referred to in this section as the "fund," is established. In addition to the payments made pursuant to section 2956, a dealer shall withhold and pay to the fund from each Maine milk producer a fee of 1¢ per hundredweight as monthly payments, based on the quantity of milk purchased or produced in any market area or purchased or produced in any uncontrolled area and sold in any market area.

2. Distributions from fund. Notwithstanding section 2957, the commission shall make distributions from the fund to a statewide association that has been approved by the majority of dairy farmers in the State in amounts allocated from the fund for that purpose.

Sec. 2. Allocation. The following funds are allocated from Other Special Revenue funds to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	2001-02	2002-03
AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF		
Maine Milk Commission		
All Other	\$70,000	\$70,000
Provides funds for payments to a statewide association representing dairy farmers.		

2 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

4
6 **SUMMARY**

8 This bill establishes a fund under the auspices of the Maine
Milk Commission, within the Department of Agriculture, Food and
10 Rural Resources to be distributed, according to allocations made
by the Legislature, to a statewide association representing dairy
12 farmers. The source of the fund is a fee of 1¢ per hundredweight
paid by Maine milk producers to dealers as part of the dealer's
monthly reports.