

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1534

S.P. 470

In Senate, March 8, 2001

**An Act to Prohibit Grocery Stores From Charging Maine Farmers
Access Fees, Slotting Fees and Rebates.**

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative McKEE of Wayne and
Senators: GAGNON of Kennebec, KILKELLY of Lincoln, Representatives: CARR of
Lincoln, GREEN of Monmouth, VOLENIK of Brooklin.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §6652, sub-§1-D** is enacted to read:

6 1-D. Additional persons excluded. Notwithstanding any
8 other provision of this chapter, in order to qualify for
10 reimbursement under this chapter, a person who owns a business
12 that grosses over \$200,000 per month in which at least 75% of the
14 sales are for grocery staples must meet the following
16 requirements for reimbursement of taxes on property used by the
18 business:

20 A. The person purchases produce from at least 75 farms in
22 the State;

24 B. The person does not charge a farm in the State a fee or
26 rebate to carry the farm's product; and

28 C. At the time the tax to be reimbursed under this chapter
30 is paid, the person submits to the Commissioner of
32 Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources a list of the names
34 and addresses of the farms required by paragraph A.

36 For purposes of this subsection, "grocery staples" has the same
meaning as in section 1752, subsection 3-B and "person" has the
same meaning as in section 1752, subsection 9.

SUMMARY

30 This bill excludes from the reimbursement for taxes paid on
32 certain business property under the "BETR" program a person who
34 owns a business that grosses over \$200,000 per month in which at
36 least 75% of the sales are grocery staples unless the business
purchases produce from at least 75 farms in the State each year
and does not charge a farm in the State a rebate or fee to carry
the farm's product.