

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 53

H.P. 61

House of Representatives, January 16, 2003

An Act to Allow Experimentation in the Cultivation of Agricultural Hemp

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

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND

Clerk

Presented by Representative BULL of Freeport.
Cosponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford and
Representatives: COWGER of Hallowell, FISCHER of Presque Isle, HUTTON of
Bowdoinham, KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, LUNDEEN of Mars Hill, PINEAU of Jay,
THOMPSON of China, Senator: HALL of Lincoln.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 17-A MRS §1101, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1975, c. 740, §96, is further amended to read:

6 1. "Marijuana" includes the leaves, stems, flowers and
8 seeds of all species of the plant genus cannabis, whether growing
10 or not, but ~~shall~~ does not include the resin extracted from any
12 part of such plant ~~and every or any~~ compound, manufacture, salt,
14 derivative, mixture or preparation from such resin, including
16 hashish, and further, ~~shall~~ does not include the mature stalks of
18 such plant, fiber produced from such stalks, oil or cake made
from the seeds of such plant, any other compound, manufacture,
salt, derivative, mixture or preparation of such mature stalks,
fiber, oil or cake or the sterilized seed of such plant ~~which~~
that is incapable of germination. "Marijuana" does not include
industrial hemp as defined in subsection 22.

20 **Sec. 2. 17-A MRS §1101, sub-§22** is enacted to read:

22 22. "Industrial hemp" means any variety of Cannabis sativa
L. with a delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol concentration that does
not exceed 0.3% on a dry weight basis and that is grown under a
federal permit in compliance with the conditions of that permit.

26 **Sec. 3. Authorization for Maine Agricultural Experiment Station to**
study cultivation of industrial hemp. The Director of the Maine
28 Agricultural Experiment Station may develop a study to explore
the feasibility and desirability of industrial hemp production in
30 this State. The study may include an analysis of required soils
and growing conditions, seed availability and varieties,
32 including in-the-ground seed variety trials, harvest methods,
market economies and environmental benefits. Prior to
34 undertaking a study, the director, in consultation with the
Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, shall
36 obtain all federal permits needed to legally grow industrial hemp
for fiber or seed production prior to importing any nonsterilized
38 industrial hemp seeds capable of germination into the State.

40 **SUMMARY**

42 This bill defines "industrial hemp." It authorizes, but
44 does not require, the Director of the Maine Agricultural
Experiment Station to obtain the appropriate federal permits to
46 study the feasibility of growing industrial hemp.