

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1219

H.P. 893

House of Representatives, March 6, 2003

An Act To Establish a Moratorium on Genetically Engineered Plants

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative McKEE of Wayne.
Cosponsored by Senator DAMON of Hancock and
Representatives: ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft, CHURCHILL of Orland, HUTTON of
Bowdoinham, PINGREE of North Haven, PIOTTI of Unity, TWOMEY of Biddeford, Senator:
TREAT of Kennebec.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §1053** is enacted to read:

6 **§1053. Moratorium on genetically engineered foods**

8 During the period beginning October 1, 2003 and ending
10 October 1, 2006, a person may not plant or cultivate genetically
12 engineered plant parts, seeds or plants out of doors and a person
14 may not plant or cultivate genetically engineered plant parts,
16 seeds or plants in greenhouses for commercial crop production.
18 The department shall prepare a marketing plan that uses the
20 moratorium as a promotional tool for Maine's agricultural
22 products. This section is repealed October 1, 2006.

24 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill establishes a 3-year moratorium on planting or cultivating genetically engineered plant parts, seeds or plants out of doors and a moratorium on planting or cultivating genetically engineered plant parts, seeds or plants in greenhouses for commercial crop production. The moratorium begins October 1, 2003 and ends October 1, 2006. During this time, the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources must prepare a marketing plan that uses the moratorium as a promotional tool for Maine's agricultural products.