

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 1309

H.P. 907

House of Representatives, March 15, 2005

An Act To Exempt Agricultural Guard Dogs and Herding Dogs from the Barking Dog Ordinances

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative TRAHAN of Waldoboro.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §3950**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 779, §40, is
4 further amended to read:

6 **§3950. Local regulations**

8 Each municipality is empowered to adopt or retain more
10 stringent ordinances, laws or regulations dealing with the
12 subject matter of this chapter, except that municipalities may
14 not adopt breed-specific ordinances, laws or regulations. Any
16 less restrictive municipal ordinances, laws or regulations are
18 invalid and of no force and effect.

20 1. Barking dogs; exception. A municipal ordinance, law or
22 regulation that prohibits or limits barking dogs must include an
24 exception for agricultural guard dogs whose primary purpose is to
protect other domesticated livestock and warn the owners of
danger to the livestock and dogs used for for herding livestock.

22 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill exempts agricultural guard dogs and dogs used for
herding livestock from barking dog ordinances.