

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
122ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1497, L.D. 2107, Bill, "An Act To Establish a Food Policy for Maine"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1.

Further amend the bill in section 4 by striking out all of §216.

Further amend the bill in section 4 by renumbering the sections to read consecutively.

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 6 and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 6. Maine Food Policy Council established. The Maine Food Policy Council, referred to in this section as "the council," is established. Membership and duties of the council are as provided in this section.

1. Members. The council consists of 15 members appointed as follows:

A. Two members of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters, one appointed by the President of the Senate and one appointed by the Speaker of the House;

B. One member of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over matters pertaining to marine fisheries appointed by the President of the Senate;

2 C. One member of the joint standing committee of the
Legislature having jurisdiction over matters of health and
4 nutrition appointed by the Speaker of the House;

6 D. One representative of each of the following state
agencies appointed by the commissioner or director of the
8 agency:

10 (1) The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural
Resources;

12 (2) The Department of Marine Resources;

14 (3) The Department of Health and Human Services; and

16 (4) The Executive Department, State Planning Office;

18 E. Three members representing consumers, including at least
20 one representing an organization that provides food
assistance and one receiving food assistance, appointed by
22 the Governor;

24 F. Three members representing the food industry, including
producers, distributors, processors or retailers, appointed
26 by the Governor; and

28 G. One representative of the University of Maine System who
is from the Cooperative Extension or the University of
30 Maine, Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition or who
is a director of dining services within the University of
32 Maine System, appointed by the Chancellor of the University
of Maine System.

34 **2. Legislative members.** No more than 2 Legislators with
36 the same party affiliation may be appointed on the council.

38 **3. Chair.** The first-named Senate member is the Senate chair
and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House
40 chair.

42 **4. Appointments; convening of council.** All appointments
must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date
44 of this Act. The appointing authorities shall notify the
Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all
46 appointments have been completed. Within 15 days after
appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the
48 first meeting of the council.

2 **5. Meetings and attendance.** The council may meet up to 4
times.

4 **6. Quorum; actions.** A quorum is a majority of the members of
the council. An affirmative vote of the majority of the members
6 present at a meeting is required for any action.

8 **7. Duties.** The council shall develop:

10 A. A food policy for the State that recognizes that it is
in the best interest of the State to ensure the availability
12 of an adequate supply of safe, wholesome and nutritious food
to its citizens; and

14 B. A strategic plan for implementation of the state food
16 policy under paragraph A. The strategic plan must include
benchmarks and criteria for measuring progress in achieving
18 food policy objectives. To support implementation of the
strategic plan, the council shall:

20 (1) Advise the Governor, the Legislature, state
22 agencies and the public on programs to increase food
self-sufficiency for the State and enhance the vitality
24 of agriculture in the State;

26 (2) Conduct research and analyze issues of state
significance relating to food production, distribution
28 and consumption;

30 (3) Solicit public input through public hearings and
informational meetings;

32 (4) Review state programs, practices and regulatory
34 systems affecting the food supply system and make
recommendations to resolve conflicts, remove burdensome
36 requirements, improve the efficiency, safety and
productivity of the State's food system and increase
38 consumer access to food;

40 (5) Coordinate and develop collaborative relationships
between private and public entities involved in food
42 production and delivery and with the advisory committee
established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7,
44 section 214, subsection 3; and

46 (6) Coordinate the efforts of state agencies relating
to food to ensure that state programs are conducted in
48 a manner that optimizes their effectiveness, promotes
locally grown foods and ensures consistency with the
50 state food policy developed under paragraph A.

2 **8. Formation of subcommittees.** The council shall invite a
4 broad base of individuals and representatives of advocacy and
6 stakeholder groups to participate in the strategic planning
8 process through the formation of subcommittees and working
10 groups to address issues identified by the council as needing
12 further study or particular expertise.

14 **9. Staff assistance.** The Department of Agriculture, Food
16 and Rural Resources shall provide staff to the council.

18 **10. Compensation.** The legislative members of the council
20 are entitled to the legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine
22 Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2, and reimbursement for
24 travel and other necessary expenses related to their attendance
26 at authorized meetings of the council. Public members not
28 otherwise compensated by their employers or other entities that
30 they represent are entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary
32 expenses and, upon a demonstration of financial hardship, a per
34 diem equal to the legislative per diem for their attendance at
36 authorized meetings of the council.

38 **11. Report.** The council shall submit a report on the
40 activities of the council to the joint standing committee of the
42 Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters by
44 December 15, 2006.

46 **12. Extension.** If the council requires a limited extension
48 of time to conclude its study and make its report, it may apply
to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension.

50 **13. Council budget.** The chairs of the council, with
52 assistance from the council staff, shall administer the council's
54 budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the council
56 shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the Legislative
58 Council for its approval. The council may not incur expenses
60 that would result in the council's exceeding its approved
62 budget. Upon request from the council, the Executive Director of
64 the Legislative Council shall promptly provide the council chairs
66 and staff with a status report on the council's budget,
68 expenditures incurred and paid and available funds.'

70 Further amend the bill in section 7 in the 2nd and 3rd lines
72 (page 5, lines 27 and 28 in L.D.) by striking out the following:
74 "the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7, section 216, subsection 7"
76 and inserting in its place the following: 'section 5'

78 Further amend the bill in section 8 in the 2nd and 3rd lines
80 (page 6, lines 25 and 26 in L.D.) by striking out the following:

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1497, L.D. 2107

2 "the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7, section 216, subsection 7"
and inserting in its place the following: 'section 6'

4 Further amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any
6 nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read
consecutively.

8

SUMMARY

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12 This bill removes the Maine Food Policy Council from the
statutes and establishes and funds it for one year.

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SPONSORED BY: 

(Senator GAGNON)

18

COUNTY: Kennebec

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



Approved: 04/25/06 *MAC*

122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2107

LR 3147(03)

An Act to Establish a Food Policy for Maine

Fiscal Note for Senate Amendment "A"

Sponsor: Sen. Gagnon

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Limits study to one year

Legislative Study

This amendment eliminates any future ongoing legislative costs by changing this from an ongoing Title 5 Commission to a one year study. The projected General Fund cost for four legislators of \$1,680 in fiscal year 2006-07 will be funded within the Legislature's study budget.