

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 3/25/08

L.D. 2010
(Filing No. H 803)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
123RD LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1394, L.D. 2010, Bill, "An Act To -
Ensure Ethical and Humane Dog Breeding in the State"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural
Resources To Evaluate and Recommend Revisions to the Animal Welfare
Laws and Department Rules Regarding Breeding Kennels'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to
convene a working group. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food
and Rural Resources shall convene a working group to evaluate and recommend changes
to the statutory definition of "breeding kennel" in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7,
section 3907, subsection 8-A. The commissioner shall invite representatives of the
following stakeholder groups to participate in the working group: the Maine Veterinary
Medical Association, the Maine Federation of Humane Societies, an animal advocacy
organization, the Federation of Maine Dog Clubs, the American Kennel Club, the Down
East Sled Dog Club, the Maine Animal Control Officers Association and the Maine Town
and City Clerks' Association. The commissioner shall invite at least one owner of a
licensed breeding kennel and one owner of a licensed cat breeding facility to participate
in the working group. The director of the animal welfare program within the Department
of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the state veterinarian assigned to the animal
welfare program and a member of the Animal Welfare Advisory Council designated by
the commissioner shall participate in the working group. The department shall provide
staff to and coordinate meetings of the working group using existing resources or funds
specifically donated to facilitate this undertaking; and be it further

Sec. 2. Duties. Resolved: That, the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and
Rural Resources, in consultation with the working group under section 1, shall review the
following issues within the parameters of applicable federal and state laws: the current

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 statutory definition of "breeding kennel," recent and proposed revisions to the definition
2 and the practical impact of those revisions; criteria or documentation that the animal
3 welfare program within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and
4 municipal animal control officers must use to determine whether a facility meets the
5 definition of "breeding kennel"; and the department's rules and proposed revisions to the
6 rules pertaining to the licensing and regulation of breeding kennels; and be it further

7 **Sec. 3. Reporting date established. Resolved:** That, no later than January 15,
8 2009, the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources shall submit a report
9 with findings and recommendations pursuant to the review under section 2, including any
10 recommended legislative changes, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
11 having jurisdiction over animal welfare matters. The joint standing committee of the
12 Legislature having jurisdiction over animal welfare matters may submit legislation
13 pertaining to the definition and regulation of breeding kennels to the First Regular
14 Session of the 124th Legislature.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This amendment replaces the concept draft for a bill with a resolve. It directs the
17 Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to convene a working group to
18 evaluate the definition of "breeding kennel" and review statutory provisions and
19 regulation of breeding kennels. It directs the commissioner to invite representatives of
20 certain stakeholder groups to participate in the working group. The department is
21 directed to provide staff to and coordinate meetings of the working group within existing
22 resources. The commissioner is required to submit a report following this review by
23 January 15, 2009 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
24 over animal welfare matters. The committee is authorized to submit legislation
25 pertaining to the regulation of breeding kennels to the First Regular Session of the 124th
26 Legislature.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See Attached)



Approved: 03/18/08 *MAC*

123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2010

LR 2754(02)

An Act To Ensure Ethical and Humane Dog Breeding in the State

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"

Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.