

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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2 Date: 5-31-11 MINORITY (Filing No. S- 204)

3 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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5 STATE OF MAINE

6 SENATE

7 125TH LEGISLATURE

8 FIRST REGULAR SESSION

9 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 227, L.D. 735, Bill, "An Act To Allow
10 the Use of Electronic Benefits Transfer Funds at Farmers' Markets"

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

12 **'Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and**
13 **the Department of Health and Human Services To Support a Public-private**
14 **Partnership To Provide Farmers' Markets with Wireless Electronic Benefit**
15 **Transfer Card Readers'**

16 Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and
17 inserting the following:

18 **'Sec. 1. Letters of support. Resolved:** That the Department of Agriculture,
19 Food and Rural Resources and the Department of Health and Human Services shall work
20 with the Maine Federation of Farmers' Markets to issue letters of support for developing a
21 public-private partnership working toward universal access of farmers' markets to
22 machines required to process federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
23 electronic benefit transfer funds. The public-private partnership shall solicit the private
24 funds necessary to provide all farmers' markets in the State with wireless electronic
25 benefit transfer card readers. The partnership also shall work with banks and machine
26 vendors to eliminate, reduce or reimburse all costs and fees associated with processing
27 electronic benefit transfer cards from farmers' markets.'

28 SUMMARY

29 This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, replaces the bill. It
30 requires the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the Department of
31 Health and Human Services to work with the Maine Federation of Farmers' Markets to
32 issue letters of support for developing a public-private partnership working toward
33 universal access of farmers' markets to machines required to process federal
34 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program electronic benefit transfer funds. It requires
35 the partnership to solicit private funds to provide farmers' markets with wireless

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 227, L.D. 735

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electronic benefit transfer card readers. The partnership will also work with banks and machine vendors to eliminate, reduce or reimburse all costs and fees associated with processing the cards.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

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Approved: 05/25/11 *MAC*



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 735

LR 1724(02)

An Act To Allow the Use of Electronic Benefits Transfer Funds at Farmers' Markets

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" S-204

Committee: Health and Human Services

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Health and Human Services and to the Department of Agriculture are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.