

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 738

S.P. 230

In Senate, February 18, 2011

An Act To Require Disclosure of the Origin of Certain Products Sold at Farm Stands

(EMERGENCY)

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on February 18, 2011. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin.

1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** the number of farm stands operating in the State increases markedly in
4 May; and

5 **Whereas,** it is desirable that this legislation take effect prior to this seasonal
6 increase; and

7 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
8 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
9 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
10 therefore,

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

12 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §416** is enacted to read:

13 **§416. Farm stand**

14 **1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the
15 following terms have the following meanings.

16 A. "Farm stand" means a roadside stand at which locally grown farm products are
17 offered for direct sale to the public and that is operated by a farmer or by a person
18 who purchases the majority of the products sold at the farm stand from farmers.

19 **2. Products.** A product sold at a farm stand that was not grown by the owner of the
20 farm stand must have the name and location of the farm where the product was grown
21 affixed to the product or displayed on a sign in close proximity to the product.

22 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
23 legislation takes effect when approved.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill defines "farm stand" and requires that any product that was not grown by the
26 person operating the farm stand must be labelled in such a way as to identify the product's
27 origin.