

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ROFS

L.D. 1759

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AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
125TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1294, L.D. 1759, Bill, "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Pull Events Commission"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §98, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 563, §3, is amended to read:

1. Membership. The Pull Events Commission consists of ~~9~~ 10 members:

A. Two members appointed by a statewide association representing owners of draft horses and oxen who participate in pulling events;

B. One member appointed by ~~an~~ a statewide association representing owners of oxen who participate in pulling events;

C. One member appointed by ~~an~~ a statewide farmers association representing owners of ~~ponies~~ draft horses who participate in pulling events;

C-1. One member appointed by a statewide farmers association representing owners of draft oxen who participate in pulling events;

D. One fair superintendent appointed by ~~a state association of agricultural fairs~~ the commissioner;

D-1. One member appointed by a state association of agricultural fairs;

E. One representative appointed by state humane organizations;

F. One member, appointed by the commissioner, representing the general public; and

~~G. One member, appointed by the commissioner, representing the animal pulling industry; and~~

H. One member appointed by the Animal Welfare Advisory Council.

Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §98, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2011, c. 73, §2, is further amended to read:

1 **2. Chair; meetings; secretary; quorum.** The Pull Events Commission shall elect
2 one of its members as chair. The chair serves a 2-year term and may not serve as chair
3 for consecutive terms. The commission shall meet a minimum of twice annually. The
4 commissioner shall designate a person to serve as secretary to the Pull Events
5 Commission. A quorum of the commission for the transaction of business is 6 members.
6 An action may not be taken by the commission without approval of a majority of the
7 members present.

8 **Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §98, sub-§3,** as enacted by PL 2005, c. 563, §3, is amended to
9 read:

10 **3. Terms; vacancies.** Appointments to the Pull Events Commission must be for
11 terms of ~~2~~ 3 years. The appointing authority fills a vacancy for a full ~~2-year~~ 3-year term.
12 The appointing authority may remove a commission member for cause, which includes
13 poor attendance. The chair shall make recommendations to the appointing authority
14 concerning a removal.

15 **Sec. 4. Staggered terms.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7,
16 section 98, subsections 1 and 3, the terms of members appointed to the Pull Events
17 Commission in 2012 are as follows:

18 1. The term of one member appointed under Title 7, section 98, subsection 1,
19 paragraph A is one year and the term of the other member is 3 years;

20 2. The term of the members appointed under Title 7, section 98, subsection 1,
21 paragraphs B, D, E and F is 2 years;

22 3. The term of the members appointed under Title 7, section 98, subsection 1,
23 paragraphs C and H is one year; and

24 4. The term of the members appointed under Title 7, section 98, subsection 1,
25 paragraphs C-1 and D-1 is 3 years.'

26 SUMMARY

27 This amendment increases the membership of the Pull Events Commission from 9 to
28 10 and revises the membership by specifying that 2 members are appointed by farmers
29 associations representing owners of animals who participate in pull events. It specifies
30 that the fair superintendent who serves on the commission is appointed by the
31 Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. It provides for a member to be
32 appointed by a state association of agricultural fairs. It eliminates the member
33 representing the animal pulling industry appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture,
34 Food and Rural Resources.

35 It provides for the staggering of the terms of members appointed in 2012.
36 Subsequent appointments are for 3 years. It requires 6 members of the 10-member
37 commission to be present to transact business and that a majority vote of those present is
38 necessary to approve any action.