

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1446

H.P. 998

House of Representatives, April 13, 2017

An Act Regarding the Confidentiality of Information in the Animal Welfare Laws

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TIMBERLAKE of Turner. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and
Representative: KINNEY of Knox, Senator: SAVIELLO of Franklin.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §3909, sub-§6**, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 267, Pt. C, §1, is
3 amended to read:

4 **6. Confidential information.** The names of and other identifying information about
5 persons providing information pertaining to criminal or civil cruelty to animals to the
6 department are confidential information and may not be released.

7 The names of and other identifying information about persons who have contracted with
8 or been hired by an entity for the purpose of filming or recording business operations of
9 another entity to provide information pertaining to criminal or civil cruelty to animals to
10 the department are not confidential information and may be released.

11 **Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §1023, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 267, Pt. C, §2, is
12 amended to read:

13 **4. Confidential information.** The names of and other identifying information about
14 persons providing information pertaining to criminal or civil cruelty to animals to the
15 Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry are confidential information and
16 may not be released.

17 The names of and other identifying information about persons who have contracted with
18 or been hired by an entity for the purpose of filming or recording business operations of
19 another entity to provide information pertaining to criminal or civil cruelty to animals to
20 the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry are not confidential
21 information and may be released.

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This bill provides that the names of and identifying information about persons who
24 have contracted with or been hired by an entity for the purpose of filming or recording
25 business operations of another entity to provide information pertaining to criminal or civil
26 cruelty to animals to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may be
27 made public.