

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# **128th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## **FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2017**

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1648**

S.P. 605

In Senate, October 16, 2017

**An Act To Amend the Law Recognizing Local Control Regarding  
Food Systems and Require Compliance with Federal and State Food  
Safety Regulations**

(EMERGENCY)

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Received by the Secretary of the Senate on October 13, 2017. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

**HEATHER J.R. PRIEST**  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)



1           **2. Local food system.** "Local food system" means a community food system within  
2           a municipality that integrates food production, processing, consumption, direct producer-  
3           to-consumer exchanges and other traditional foodways to enhance the environmental,  
4           economic, social and nutritional health and well-being of the municipality and its  
5           residents.

6           **§283. Statement of policy; local control and rural economic development**

7           It is the policy of this State to encourage food self-sufficiency for its citizens. The  
8           department shall support policies that:

9           **1. Local control.** Through local control, preserve the ability of communities to  
10           produce, process, sell, purchase and consume locally produced foods;

11           **2. Small-scale farming and food production.** Ensure the preservation of family  
12           farms and traditional foodways through small-scale farming and food production;

13           **3. Improved health and well-being.** Improve the health and well-being of citizens  
14           of this State by reducing hunger and increasing food security through improved access to  
15           wholesome, nutritious foods by supporting family farms and encouraging sustainable  
16           farming and fishing;

17           **4. Self-reliance and personal responsibility.** Promote self-reliance and personal  
18           responsibility by ensuring the ability of individuals, families and other entities to prepare,  
19           process, advertise and sell foods directly to customers intended solely for consumption by  
20           the customers or their families; and

21           **5. Rural economic development.** Enhance rural economic development and the  
22           environmental and social wealth of rural communities.

23           **§284. Home rule authority; local food and community self-governance**

24           Pursuant to the home rule authority granted to municipalities by Title 30-A, section  
25           3001 and by the Constitution of Maine, Article VIII, Part Second, and notwithstanding  
26           any other provision of law to the contrary, a municipality may adopt ordinances regarding  
27           local food systems and community self-governance that set forth provisions that apply  
28           exclusively to direct producer-to-consumer food exchanges and other traditional  
29           foodways, and the State shall recognize such ordinances, except as provided in section  
30           285.

31           **§285. Departmental authority; livestock and poultry**

32           In every political subdivision of the State, including a municipality that adopts or  
33           amends an ordinance pursuant to section 284, the department shall implement and  
34           enforce all provisions of Title 22, chapter 562-A and the rules adopted thereunder that are  
35           necessary to ensure that the requirements of the State's meat and poultry products  
36           inspection and licensing program are at least equal to the applicable requirements  
37           specified under applicable federal acts, as defined by the United States Department of  
38           Agriculture or other federal agencies, without exception.

