

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1744

Date: 3/22/22

(Filing No. S-455)

**MINORITY**

**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

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**STATE OF MAINE**

**SENATE**

**130TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 599, L.D. 1744, "An Act To Increase Funding for the Animal Welfare Fund by Increasing Certain Fees"

Amend the bill by inserting before section 1 the following:

'Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §714, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2007, c. 702, §2, is further amended to read:

**1. Application for registration.** A person may not distribute in this State a commercial feed, except a customer-formula feed, that has not been registered pursuant to this section. The application for registration must be submitted in the manner prescribed by the commissioner on forms furnished by the commissioner. The annual fee is ~~\$80~~ \$100 per product name for pet food and the total annual fee for a home-based manufacturer of pet food is ~~\$80~~ \$100. The annual fee is ~~\$80~~ \$100 per product name for all other commercial feed. Upon approval by the commissioner the registration must be issued to the applicant. All registrations expire on the 31st day of December. The commissioner may issue a registration for a one-year, 2-year or 3-year period. Registrations for a period in excess of one year may only be issued with the agreement of or at the request of the applicant. The fee for a 2-year registration is 2 times the annual fee. The fee for a 3-year registration is 3 times the annual fee.'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §714, sub-§2, as repealed and replaced by PL 2001, c. 422, §2, is amended to read:

**2. Fees.** The commissioner shall deposit ~~1/2~~ 40% of the fees collected pursuant to subsection 1 in the General Fund and ~~1/2~~ 60% of the fees collected in the Animal Welfare Fund established under section 3906-B.'

Amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 2 in the 4th line (page 1, line 12 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "~~1/2 of~~" and inserting the following: '~~1/2 of~~ 60% of'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 5 the following:

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**





# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1744

LR 2195(03)

## An Act To Increase Funding for the Animal Welfare Fund by Increasing Certain Fees

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'B' (S-455)  
 Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry  
 Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

|                                   | FY 2021-22 | FY 2022-23 | Projections<br>FY 2023-24 | Projections<br>FY 2024-25 |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Appropriations/Allocations</b> |            |            |                           |                           |
| Other Special Revenue Funds       | \$0        | \$279,360  | \$279,360                 | \$279,360                 |
| <b>Revenue</b>                    |            |            |                           |                           |
| Other Special Revenue Funds       | \$0        | \$279,360  | \$279,360                 | \$279,360                 |

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill increases the registration fee to distribute a commercial feed in the State from \$80 to \$100 per product name for pet food, from \$80 to \$100 per product name for all other commercial feed and from \$80 to \$100 for a home-based manufacturer of pet food. The bill also changes the revenue distribution of these fees. Currently, 50% of the fees are credited to the Animal Welfare Fund (AWF) and 50% are credited to the General Fund. This bill would change the ratio to 60% AWF and 40% General Fund. The combination of higher registration fees and changed distribution ratio will not impact General Fund revenues but will result in an increase in Other Special Revenue Funds revenues to the AWF of \$279,360 starting in fiscal year 2022-23.

The bill also increases the daily compensation for animal shelters holding animals pending court decisions from \$5 to \$15 for dogs and cats, from \$8 to \$18 for female cats or dogs with unweaned litters and from \$10 to \$20 for equines. It also increases from \$8 to \$20 the upper limit of daily compensation for holding livestock animals, excluding equines, fowl and rabbits.

The bill includes allocations of \$279,360 beginning in fiscal year 2022-23 to allow expenditure of the additional revenue, which will be more than sufficient to cover the higher compensation paid to animal shelters.