

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 239

House of Representatives, February 25, 1919.

Reported by Mr. Washburn from Committee on Agriculture
and ordered printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Washburn of Perry.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND
NINE HUNDRED AND NINETEEN

AN ACT to Provide for Cooperative Agricultural Extension
Work Between the Several Counties of Maine and the Uni-
versity of Maine, College of Agriculture, in Accordance with
the Federal Agricultural Extension Act of May 8, 1914, En-
titled "An Act to Provide for Cooperative Agricultural Ex-
tension Work Between the Agricultural Colleges and the
United States Department of Agriculture."

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

Section 1. That in order to aid in diffusing among the
2 people of the state of Maine useful and practical informa-
3 tion on subjects relating to agriculture, home economics
4 and rural life and to encourage the application of the same,

5 there may be inaugurated in each of the several counties
6 of the state of Maine extension work which shall be carried
7 on in cooperation with the University of Maine, College of
8 Agriculture.

Sect. 2. Cooperative agricultural extension work shall
2 consist of the giving of practical demonstrations in agri-
3 culture and home economics, and imparting information
4 on said subjects through field demonstrations, publications
5 and otherwise; and this work shall be carried on in each
6 county in such manner as may be mutually agreed upon
7 by the executive committee of the Farm Bureau of such
8 county, provided for in section III of this Act, and the
9 trustees of the University of Maine, College of Agriculture,
10 or their duly appointed representatives.

Sect. 3. That for the purpose of carrying out the provi-
2 sions of this Act there may be created in each county or
3 combination of two counties within the State of Maine an
4 organization to be known as a Farm Bureau, in the fol-
5 lowing manner: Whenever a number not less than two
6 hundred bona fide rural residents within any county or
7 combination of two counties in the state of Maine shall
8 have effected temporary organization for doing extension
9 work in agriculture and home economics, and shall have
10 adopted a constitution and set of by-laws acceptable to
11 the University of Maine, College of Agriculture, they shall
12 be recognized as the official body within said county or
13 counties for carrying on extension work in agriculture and

14 home economics within said county or counties in coopera-
15 tion with the University of Maine, College of Agriculture.
16 Such organization may make such regulations and by-
17 laws for its government and the carrying on of its work
18 as are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act;
19 provided that any County Farm Bureau or other county
20 organization within any of the counties in the state of
21 Maine that is now doing extension work in agriculture
22 and home economics in cooperation with the University
23 of Maine, College of Agriculture, upon complying with the
24 provisions of this section, shall be the recognized Farm
25 Bureau of the county or counties where it is located, and
26 provided further that but one such organization shall be
27 formed in each county.

Sect. 4. The executive committee of each County Farm
2 Bureau shall annually prepare an annual financial budget
3 for the twelve months beginning January first next there-
4 after, showing in detail its estimate of the amount of money
5 to be expended under the provisions of this Act within
6 the county or counties for such twelve months; shall sub-
7 mit the same to a vote of the Bureau at the regular annual
8 meeting, and, if the budget is approved by a majority vote
9 of the members of the Bureau present at such meeting,
10 the executive committee shall submit the same to the Board
11 of County Commissioners on a date in December approved
12 by said County Commissioners, and the County Commis-
13 sioners shall include the amount of this budget in the ap-

14 propriations by them annually recommended, and levy a
15 tax therefor; provided further that the amount thus raised
16 by direct taxation within any county or combination of
17 counties for the purposes of this Act shall be not less than
18 one thousand and not more than two thousand dollars an-
19 nually. Whenever the inhabitants of two counties shall
20 unite for organization in one Farm Bureau the amount
21 of the tax assessed upon each county shall be in the propor-
22 tion which the number of Farm Bureau members in that
23 county bears to the total number of members in the two
24 counties so united.

Sect. 5. It shall be the duty of each said County Farm
2 Bureau annually on or before the 10th day of December,
3 to present its plan of extension work for the ensuing year
4 and to render to both the trustees of the University of
5 Maine, College of Agriculture, and the County Commission-
6 ers a full detailed report of its extension activities for the
7 preceding fiscal year, including a detailed report of its re-
8 ceipts and expenditures from all sources; and the financial
9 report of such county farm bureau shall be on such forms
10 as may be prescribed by the trustees of the University of
11 Maine, College of Agriculture.