

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

EIGHTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 162

House of Representatives, Feb. 23, 1923.

Reported by Mr. Houghton from Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and ordered printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THREE

AN ACT to Promote the Production and Sale of Certified Seed
and to Protect the Branding Thereof ; Making an Appropriation Therefor and Repealing Chapter One Hundred and Forty-one, Public Laws of 1917.

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

Section 1. The term certified seed as used in this act
2 shall be deemed to mean such vegetables seeds as shall
3 have been grown and prepared for sale in accordance with
4 regulations laid down by the commissioner of agriculture.

Sect. 2. Any grower of potatoes or other vegetable seeds
2 may make application to the commissioner of agriculture

3 for inspection and certification of this crop growing or to
4 be grown in this state, giving description of his land and
5 such information as the commissioner may require. He
6 shall also enter into an agreement to pay such fee into the
7 treasury of state for said inspection and certification as the
8 commissioner shall deem necessary to cover the cost of
9 inspection and certification. Thereupon his crops shall be
10 listed for inspection and inspected and certified by the
11 commissioner or his agents under such rules and regulations
12 as the commissioner may provide.

Sect. 3. In determining the amount of the fee to be paid
2 by the growers of potatoes or other vegetable seeds for
3 inspection and certification under this act, the commissioner
4 of agriculture may establish an entry charge not to exceed
5 fifty cents on each acre of potatoes or other vegetables for
6 which such inspection and certification is requested, but in
7 the case of potatoes which shall be found to be unfit for
8 certification, the amount of such entry fee shall not exceed
9 the actual cost of labor performed by the commissioner or
10 his agents upon such potatoes, nor shall the charge for
11 labor so performed upon such potatoes as shall be found
12 unfit for certification exceed the above named amount of
13 fifty cents per acre, and in the case of potatoes which shall
14 be accepted and certified the commissioner shall establish
15 a fee for field inspection not to exceed two dollars and fifty
16 cents per acre inclusive of entry charge and also a supple-
17 mentary charge of five cents for each barrel of potatoes

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18 which shall be finally accepted, certified and sold as certi-
19 fied seed as defined in this act.

Sect. 4. The commissioner of agriculture may issue a
2 certificate or tag which shall be attached to each container
3 or package in which certified seed shall be offered or ex-
4 posed for sale. Such tag or certificate shall indicate the
5 name of the grower, the shipping station or depot, the
6 name of the inspector making the final inspection, the
7 variety of the seed and shall bear the imprint of the seal
8 of the State of Maine.

Sect. 5. Any person who shall knowingly or wilfully
2 misuse any such tag or certificate or who shall attach to
3 any package or container of seed which has not been duly
4 inspected and certified, any imitation of such tag or cer-
5 tificate for the purpose of conveying the impression that
6 such seed has been certified by the commissioner or his
7 agents, shall be punished by a fine of fifty dollars for each
8 offense and by being thenceforth denied the privileges of
9 this act.

Sect. 6. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions
2 of this act, the sum of fifteen thousand dollars is hereby
3 appropriated to be expended under the direction of the
4 commissioner of agriculture during the year from July
5 first, nineteen hundred twenty-three to June thirtieth, nine-
6 teen hundred twenty-four, and fifteen thousand dollars
7 during the year from July first, nineteen hundred twenty-
8 four to June thirtieth, nineteen hundred twenty-five.

Sect. 7. Chapter one hundred forty-one, public laws of
2 nineteen hundred seventeen, is hereby repealed.