

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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E I G H T Y - N I N T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 943

H. P. 1775

House of Representatives, February 17, 1939.

Reported by Mr. Larrabee from Committee on Agriculture and laid on table to be printed under Joint Rules.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

S T A T E O F M A I N E

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to the Labelling of Fresh Eggs for Sale.

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

Sec. 1. P. L., 1937, c. 100, § 3, amended. Section 3 of chapter 100 of the public laws of 1937 is hereby amended to read as follows:

‘Sec. 3. Other definitions and terms. Terms used in this act shall be construed as follows unless a different meaning is clearly apparent from the language or context: “persons” means any person, firm, partnership, corporation or association, “wholesale” means selling to retailers or middlemen; “retail” means selling direct to consumer; “candling” means the common practice of examining the interior of an egg by holding and twirling the same before a light passing through an aperture in an opaque shield; “large” eggs shall mean eggs ~~which average at least having an average weight of not less than~~ 24 ounces net to the dozen ~~and with no egg weighing less than at the rate of 23 ounces to the dozen;~~ “medium” eggs ~~mean eggs which average at least 21 ounces to the dozen and no eggs weighing less than at the rate of 20 ounces,~~ shall mean eggs having an average weight of not less than 21 ounces net to the dozen with no egg below the rate of 20 ounces to the dozen; “small” eggs ~~mean any eggs which will not qualify as to size under “large” or “medium.”~~ “pullet”

eggs shall mean eggs having an average weight of not less than 19 ounces net to the dozen with no egg below the rate of 18 ounces to the dozen; "peewee" eggs shall mean all eggs which will not qualify as to size under "large," "medium," or "pullet."

Sec. 2. P. L., 1937, c. 100, § 4, amended. Section 4 of chapter 100 of the public laws of 1937 is hereby repealed, and the following enacted in place thereof:

Sec. 4. To provide for proper branding. All eggs sold, offered, exposed or advertised for sale for human consumption at retail or wholesale, or exchanged or distributed at retail or wholesale in bulk or in open or closed packages or containers within the state as fresh eggs, shall be plainly and conspicuously marked on such package or container with the word "Fresh." The size of all eggs for human consumption which are sold, offered, exposed or advertised for sale at retail or wholesale or exchanged or distributed at retail or wholesale within this state in bulk or in open or closed packages or containers shall be plainly and conspicuously marked and identified on such package or container as "large," "medium," "pullet," or "peewee," as the case may be, or by such other terms as the commissioner of agriculture may from time to time prescribe.'

Sec. 3. P. L., 1937, c. 100, § 5, amended. Section 5 of chapter 100 of the public laws of 1937 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5. Tolerances established. In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling the following tolerances shall be allowed: (a) Ten eggs in each dozen shall meet the minimum requirements for fresh eggs as hereinbefore defined. Not more than 2 eggs in each dozen may be below said minimum requirements, but not below the following requirements; air cell not greater than $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in depth; localized, may be slightly tremulous, yolk may be visible, mobile, germ developments slightly visible; white reasonably firm. (b) Not more than 2 eggs in each dozen "large" and "medium" shall fall below the required average weight of "large" and "medium" as designated in this act. shall fall below the required average weight of its classification as defined in this act.'