

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT OF H. P. 1533, L. D. 1164

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1366**

H. P. 1663

House of Representatives, April 3, 1947.

Reported by Mr. Prout from Committee on Agriculture and laid on the table to be printed under joint rules.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT Relating to Seed Potato Board Appropriation.**

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**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, there has developed in the potato growing industry throughout this state a large number of potato diseases which, unless eradicated, controlled or eliminated, seriously threaten the future welfare of the potato industry of this state, and

Whereas, it becomes necessary and imperative that a program of research and practices be immediately undertaken aimed toward producing and making available to the potato growers of this state a source of supply of disease free potato seed during the planting, growing and harvesting season of 1947 and the years to follow, and

Whereas, the foregoing facts in the judgment of this legislature constitute an emergency within the meaning of the constitution of this state and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

**R. S., c. 27, § 127-F, amended.** Section 127-F of chapter 27 of the revised statutes, as enacted by chapter 153 of the public laws of 1945, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 127-F. Appropriation.** There is hereby appropriated from the unappropriated surplus of the general fund the sum of \$100,000 to be made available to the seed potato board, said sum so appropriated to ~~constitute an annual~~ be a revolving fund for the use of said board in carrying out the terms and purposes as stipulated herein.

~~Provided, however, that from funds arising from the sale of seed potatoes under this program said seed potato board shall cause to be paid into the state treasury annually a sum which shall, in 10 years, equal the amount of said \$100,000 appropriation; and in any year when said board cannot, from the sale of said seed potatoes, pay said amount in full, then the state treasury shall be reimbursed as to the balance of said amount by money taken from, but not larger than 10% of, the total tax collected under the provisions of sections 206 to 217, inclusive, of chapter 14, commonly known as the potato tax.~~

Provided, however, that if at the end of any fiscal year the seed board cannot show total assets of \$100,000, either in cash, real estate, chattels or potato contracts as determined by the state auditor, a sum sufficient to make up the \$100,000 shall be taken from the tax collected under the provisions of sections 206 to 217, inclusive, of chapter 14, commonly known as the potato tax. This sum, however, shall not be larger than \$10,000 in any 1 fiscal year. In case the assets of the said seed potato board at the end of any fiscal year exceed \$100,000, then any sums which have been taken from the potato tax may be returned in an amount not to exceed the excess over \$100,000.

The 10-year period shall expire June 30, 1956, at which time there shall be returned to the general fund of the state, \$100,000.'

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.