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Legislative Document

No. 726

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

H. P. 516 House of Representatives, February 13, 1957. Referred to the Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

Presented by Mr. Tarbox of Gouldsboro.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Use of Moneys Received Under Sardine Tax Law.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the packing of sardines is one of the most important industries of the State; and

Whereas, the Maine Sardine Council has greatly assisted this important Maine Industry by gathering and distributing information concerning merchandising and by sustained advertising; and

Whereas, the packers and the Maine Sardine Council are constantly striving to improve the quality of the manufactured product as an aid to merchandising; and

Whereas, gathering, studying, classifying and distributing information and data concerning quality, grades, standards, methods of packing, and character of the manufactured product will greatly assist in merchandising and is also necessary to sustain and develop this important industry; and

Whereas, the Commissioner of Agriculture, who is charged with certain duties to inspect the product and to determine, promulgate and modify grades, should have available all significant information so he can efficiently carry out his duties; and

Whereas, it is urgent that such information be made available promptly, particularly by the beginning of the packing season, which extends from April 15th to December 1st; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine 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. 16, § 267, sub-§ II, ¶ C, additional. Subsection II of section 267 of chapter 16 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 4 of chapter 471 of the public laws of 1955, is hereby further amended by adding thereto a new paragraph C, to read as follows:

'C. For gathering, studying, classifying and distributing information and data concerning quality, grades, standards, methods of packing and character of the manufactured sardine products, in order to determine and improve their quality and aid in merchandising and advertising them under the direction of the Maine Sardine Council with the advice and cooperation of the Commissioner of Industry and Commerce. Such information and data and the services of the personnel who collect and classify it may be made available to the Commissioner of Agriculture for use in promulgating, establishing, and modifying official grades for sardines and for use in assigning and determining grades of sardines and in enforcing applicable provisions of the law.'

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