

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 749

H. P. 521

House of Representatives, February 14, 1957.

Referred to Committee on Agriculture. Sent up for concurrence and 750 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Call of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Revising the Maine Egg Grading Law.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 32, § 39, amended. Section 39 of chapter 32 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 39. Labeling of shell eggs. All eggs sold or offered for sale for human consumption by any person, partnership, association, firm or corporation shall be labeled with the **grade quality** and size designation as ~~set forth in the Maine consumer grades established under sections 40 and 41,~~ except as ~~hereinafter~~ **otherwise provided.**'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 32, § 40, amended. Section 40 of chapter 32 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 40. Standards of quality. The standards **and specifications** of quality for Maine consumer grades for shell eggs, Grade AA, Grade A, Grade B and Grade C, that are or may be established by the Commissioner **under sections 32 to 41, inclusive,** shall apply to all shell eggs sold or offered for sale. Any edible eggs not conforming to the specifications Maine Grade AA, A, B or C shall be sold as ~~"ungraded eggs" or as "checks" "cracks" or "dirties."~~ The final determination of the grades shall be made by candling.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 32, § 41, amended. Section 41 of chapter 32 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 41. Grades; advertising. The net weight ~~and,~~ size requirements **and standards of quality** for Maine consumer grades for shell eggs shall be estab-

lished by the Commissioner ~~and an advisory committee chosen by the Maine Poultry Improvement Association~~ as authorized by section 32.

All advertising of such eggs shall include the correct size and ~~grade quality~~ designation in describing the eggs and the correct size and ~~grade quality~~ designation shall appear in clearly legible letters on the container in which such eggs are offered for sale. Each lot of eggs sold at wholesale shall be accompanied by an invoice stating both size and ~~grade quality~~ designation.

No signs, flyers, advertisements or false labels shall be used to sell or offer for sale or expose for sale any eggs which do not conform to the standards for quality and size for Maine consumer grades ~~or that are or may be~~ established by the Commissioner, or which do not conform to the provisions of sections 39 to 47, inclusive.'

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 32, § 43, amended. Section 43 of chapter 32 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by inserting after the 2nd paragraph thereof, 2 new paragraphs, as follows:

'**"Cracks"** shall consist of eggs that have broken shells or cracked shells but with their shell membranes intact and whose contents do not leak.

'**"Dirties"** shall consist of eggs with unbroken shells that may have adhering dirt or prominent strains, or slight to moderate strains covering more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the shell surface.'

Sec. 5. R. S., c. 32, § 44, amended. Section 44 of chapter 32 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 44. Exemptions.

I. Producers selling eggs of their own producing direct to household users are exempt from the provisions of sections 39 to 47, inclusive, except when they are marked as to ~~grade quality~~ or size.

II. All sales by a producer or shipper to other than a retailer ~~or~~, consumer, **cafe, hotel or institutional user** are exempt except when they are marked as to ~~grade quality~~ or size.'