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# NINETY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

## Legislative Document

### No. 1307

H. P. 917 Referred to Committee on Agriculture. Sent up for concurrence and 750 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Foss of Chapman.

## STATE OF MAINE

### IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVEN

#### AN ACT Revising the Potato Tax Law.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 16, § 222, amended. Section 222 of chapter 16 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 222. Purpose. The production of potatoes is one of the most important agricultural industries of this State and sections 222 to 233, inclusive, were enacted into law to conserve and promote the prosperity and welfare of this State and of the potato industry of this State by fostering and promoting better methods of production, **processing**, merchandising and advertising the said potato industry of this State.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 16, § 223, amended. The 3rd paragraph from the end of section 223 of chapter 16 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Potatoes" shall mean and include all potatoes of the grades as recommended by the bureau of agricultural economies of the Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture and such other grades as may from time to time be promulgated by the Department of Agriculture of the State of Maine. The records of the Department of Agriculture of the State of Maine of the grades recommended by said bureau of agricultural economies of the Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture shall be prima facie evidence of such grades;"

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 16, § 231, sub-§ II, amended. Subsection II of section 231

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of chapter 16 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 4 of chapter 379 and by section 2 of chapter 471, both of the public laws of 1955, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

**'II.** A sum which shall equal at least 18% **\$50,000** of the money collected shall be used and applied for the purpose of investigating and determining better methods of production, shipment and merchandising of potatoes, and for the manufacture and merchandising of potato by-products by the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station under the supervision of the Maine Potato Commission.'

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 16, § 232, amended. The last sentence of section 232 of chapter 16 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 3 of chapter 471 of the public laws of 1955, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'The members of the Commission shall serve without compensation but pay except the Chairman, who shall receive a per diem of \$15 when in the performance of his duties and all Commissioners shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.'

Sec. 5. P. L., 1955, c. 379, § 5, repealed. Section 5 of chapter 379 of the public laws of 1955 is hereby repealed.