

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 1, 1982 to June 24, 1983
Chapters 453-End

AND AT THE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
September 6, 1983 to September 7, 1983
Chapters 583-588

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES
ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

J.S. McCarthy Co., Inc.
Augusta, Maine
1983

RESOLVES
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED AT THE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

of the
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

1983

CHAPTER 44

H.P. 376 - L.D. 459

RESOLVE, Appropriating \$15,000 for Maine
Poison Control Center.

Appropriation. Resolved: That the following
funds shall be appropriated from the General Fund to
carry out the purposes of this resolve.

1983-84

MAINE POISON CONTROL PROGRAM
AT THE MAINE MEDICAL CENTER

All Other \$15,000

Effective September 23, 1983.

CHAPTER 45

H.P. 420 - L.D. 503

RESOLVE, Directing the Department of
Marine Resources to Erect a Fishway on the
Orange River in Whiting, Washington County.

Commissioner of Marine Resources to erect fish-
way. Resolved: That in the event that sufficient
public or private funds are available, the Commis-
sioner of Marine Resources is directed to cause the
construction of a fishway at the Crane Mill Dam on
the Orange River in Whiting, Washington County.

Effective September 23, 1983.

CHAPTER 46

S.P. 324 - L.D. 969

RESOLVE, Authorizing and Directing the
Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and
Rural Resources to Promote Regional
and International Cooperation in the
Development of Agricultural Programs De-
signed to Encourage Greater Food Production,
Marketing and Food Self-sufficiency Among
the States of New England
and Quebec and the Maritimes.

Preamble. Whereas, the Legislature finds that common problems in the effective utilization of our agricultural resource base, natural and human, compels a closer working relationship on projects which offer potential for more food production of a diversified nature, not only to strengthen the economic position of our rural areas, but also to ensure greater food self-sufficiency for the region; and

Whereas, the Legislature declares that it attaches importance to the pursuit of common goals in the field of agriculture. It is prepared to offer financial and other forms of support on a matching basis with neighboring states and provinces and with private foundations, to foster research, planning, development and communications projects which aim to strengthen the region's capacity to develop sustainable agricultural practices and activities; and

Whereas, through cooperation and the sharing of resources, development work can begin and continue to build a more productive and diversified agricultural community on a regional basis, comprised of small to mid-sized family farms. Pooling scarce resources can insure that states and provinces which have contemplated developmental projects beyond affordability by individual states and provinces alone, can secure adequate financial and auxiliary support to pursue activities producing regional dividends; and

Whereas, initially, the Legislature suggests that regional cooperation can be best encouraged through the support of information exchange projects which concentrate on the transfer of vital information already assembled to promote diversified and intensive production of farm and forest products. For example, the Maine Public Broadcasting Service has already developed a pilot television program, called the Small Farm Journal, which effectively relays information to farmers about various production techniques and equipment options. The station in Maine has been seeking financial backing for several years to develop a comprehensive series of media programs related to farm production alternatives, but as yet fund-raising attempts have not produced the necessary amount of financial support. Another example of the use of communications technology is providing the opportunity for farmers, farm groups, university and extension officials, and Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources' personnel to exchange practical information in a timely fashion without having to travel great distances from farm or place of work. The use of computers in a teleconferencing system used in the human services field in New England states could have appropriate applications to rural development efforts in the region; and

Whereas, later on, common goals in the marketing areas can be pursued, such as emphasizing regional pooling of supplies of products to penetrate larger wholesale markets beyond the reach of small growers and to review existing marketing structures with an aim to increasing efficiency

and avoiding unproductive duplication of efforts; now, therefore, be it

Regional Agriculture Committee; established. Resolved: That there is established in Maine a Regional Agriculture Committee to insure that this policy is faithfully pursued and to which matching funds will be entrusted to stimulate and support beneficial projects. The committee shall consist of 9 members: The Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, who will be the chairman; Director of the Maine Canadian Legislative Advisory Commission; Director of the Cooperative Extension Service; 2 members of the Legislature, one appointed by the President of the Senate and one appointed by the Speaker of the House; representation from 2 different farm organizations, one associated with an established major commodity crop, such as apples, potatoes, milk, etc., and the other associated with a more diversified farm production unit chosen by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources; and a consumer, nonfarmer, representative, a representative of the communications-media field and a representative from a private foundation in Maine with an interest in agriculture, appointed by the Governor. Representatives from the legislative branch which include the Director of the Maine Canadian Legislative Advisory Committee and 2 members of the Legislature appointed by their respective presiding officers shall serve on the Regional Agriculture Committee in an advisory capacity, with no voting power; and be it further

Duties of committee. Resolved: That the Regional Agriculture Committee shall meet at least once a year, but not more than 4 times in a calendar year to:

1. Review proposals from public and private nonprofit institutions in New England, Quebec and the Maritimes which aim to strengthen the agricultural capacity of the region;
2. Establish conditions for the application of matching funds to support projects, insuring that results will be adequately disseminated in a timely fashion;
3. Administer matching funds made available to it by the Legislature and other sources for the purposes stated and to prepare an annual financial report, along with a written account of investment practices and matching donors;
4. Report annually to the Legislature to share information about the activities of the committee and the benefits achieved as a result of matching grants extended; and