

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 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

December 5, 1984 to June 20, 1985
Chapters 384-End

AND AT THE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

November 13, 1985

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF REVISOR OF STATUTES IN
ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

J.S. McCarthy Co., Inc.
Augusta, Maine
1985

PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED AT THE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

CONTINUED

and

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

of the

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

1985

after the date of filing shall not cause the certificate or record to be considered altered or amended.

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §7701, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Abuse or neglect. For purposes of section 7703, "abuse or neglect," in the case of children refers to the definition found in section 4002, subsection 1. In the case of adults, "abuse" and "neglect" refers to the definitions found in section 3472, subsections 1 and 11, and also incorporates exploitation, as defined in section 3472, subsection 9.

Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §7703, sub-§4, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 691, §2, is amended to read:

B. A law enforcement agency investigating a report of child or adult abuse or neglect or the commission of a crime by an owner, operator or employee of a facility against a client or recipient of services of the facility;

Effective September 19, 1985.

CHAPTER 438

H.P. 452 - L.D. 725

AN ACT to Initiate Agricultural Technology Transfer and Special Project Programs.

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

7 MRSA c. 9 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 9

AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND

SPECIAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

§321. Findings

1. Technology transfer needs. The Legislature finds that many new agricultural technologies have been developed in other states and countries that have not been tested or demonstrated in this State. Many of these new technologies could be applied to

Maine agricultural production, storage and processing systems. More rapid testing and demonstration of new technologies would improve efficiency of Maine agricultural production and therefore its competitive position. Agriculture is a key economic activity in many parts of the State and vital to the state's rural economy.

2. Short-term research needs. Occasionally technical problems related to production, storage or processing of agricultural commodities arise unexpectedly and must be addressed expediently if the problems are to be effectively resolved. The State must ensure that these short-term applied research needs may be met in a timely and effective manner in order to assure the well-being of its agricultural industries.

3. Role of the University of Maine. All agricultural research and demonstration activities within the State should take advantage of the technical expertise resident in the land grant college system. Testing and field demonstrations of new technologies should utilize the research and educational expertise at the University of Maine.

4. Funding needs. The Maine Agricultural Experiment Station has an overriding responsibility for agricultural research in this State. The station's research program is generally guided by a long-term research agenda which reflects basic food production research needs and regional research priorities. The Cooperative Extension Service is generally responsible for providing farmers with information on new agricultural practices. Both the Cooperative Extension Service and the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, because of their substantial federal funding, have relatively long-term planning and budget cycles. In both cases, additional state funds are needed for expanded technology transfer programs, including new technology testing and demonstration projects and for other short-term applied research projects.

§322. Technology transfer program

1. Program initiated. The commissioner may initiate an agricultural technology transfer program to accelerate adoption of advantageous technologies by Maine producers by:

A. Testing new technologies to determine their suitability and adaptability to Maine agriculture; and

B. Demonstrating new technologies which are proven beneficial to Maine producers.

2. Program operation. The commissioner may establish a challenge grant program to test and demonstrate new technologies related to the production, storage and processing of Maine agricultural commodities. Applications may be submitted by commodity groups, associations or individuals. Each proposed new technology testing or demonstration project shall include an appropriate role for the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, the Cooperative Extension Service or other University of Maine personnel to assure the validity of test results and that demonstration information is appropriately distributed. Criteria for grant awards, including specific technological problems and commodities to be addressed, shall be established by rule in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375 and shall be guided by the following criteria:

A. In the case of research on new technologies, awards shall be based on the technology's apparent applicability, the quality of the research design, impact of the proposed technology on regional agricultural needs when defined under section 314 and such other criteria as the commissioner may establish;

B. In the case of technology demonstration projects, awards shall be based on the technology's potential economic benefit, especially in terms of any regional needs or opportunities defined under section 314, the number of producers involved in the demonstration project, planned mechanisms for outreach and education and such other criteria as the commissioner may establish; and

C. No more than \$5,000 may be awarded in any fiscal year for a specific challenge grant program and for each program for which an award is made the grantee shall contribute in cash or in kind an amount equal to at least 50% of the cost of the program for the fiscal year for which the award is made.

3. Advisory committee. The commissioner may establish a Technology Transfer Committee to evaluate technology transfer grant applications and project results and disseminate information about the benefits of new technologies. This committee shall include a representative of the cooperative extension

service, the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, a financial institution and other representatives of Maine agriculture that the commissioner may designate, but the committee shall include no more than 7 members.

§323. Special projects

The commissioner may contract directly with the Agricultural Experiment Station or the Maine Cooperative Extension Service for testing new technologies and for research on pressing, short-term technical problems related to the production, storage and processing of agricultural commodities.

§324. Special revenues

Funds contributed by commodity groups, associations or individuals for special projects or for competitive technology transfer projects shall be deposited in a dedicated account which shall not lapse. Commodity groups, associations or individuals may specify that funds contributed to this account may be used to initiate projects affecting specific commodities.

§325. Annual review

The commissioner, the Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Director of the Cooperative Extension Service shall, on an annual basis, review the effectiveness of the programs operated under the provisions of this chapter in facilitating the introduction of new technologies for Maine agricultural operations.

Effective September 19, 1985.

CHAPTER 439

H.P. 746 - L.D. 1069

AN ACT to Amend and Clarify the Maine
Juvenile Code.

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

Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §3003, sub-§2-A is enacted to read: