

LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

December 5, 1990 to July 10, 1991

Chapters 1 - 590

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> J.S. McCarthy Company Augusta, Maine 1991

PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE **STATE OF MAINE**

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1991

CHAPTER 325

S.P. 359 - L.D. 961

An Act to Permit Earlier Repayment of Contributions to the Maine State Retirement System

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

5 MRSA §17703, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Exception. In the case of an employee who has been laid off, the repayment may be made immediately upon the date of restoration to membership and must be made before the date any retirement benefit becomes effective for the member.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 326

S.P. 663 - L.D. 1739

An Act to Establish a Grading System for Maple Syrup Produced in the State

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

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §892, as amended by PL 1977, c. 694, §87, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §892-A is enacted to read:

§892-A. Official grade standards for maple syrup

1. Definitions As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Brix" means the scale used to measure the specific gravity of maple syrup.

B. "Damage" means any defect that affects the color, appearance, flavor, aroma, edibility or shipping quality of maple syrup.

C. "Light transmission" means the ability of maple syrup to transmit light as determined optically by means of a spectrophotometer.

D. "Maple syrup" means the liquid derived by concentration and heat treatment of the sap of the maple tree.

E. The symbol "%Tc" means the percentage of light transmission through maple syrup, measurable by a

spectrophotometer using matched square optical cells having a 10-millimeter light path at a wavelength of 560 nanometers, the color values being expressed in percent of light transmission as compared to A.R. Glycerol fixed at 100% transmission.

2. Maple syrup grades. The following grades are established as the official maple syrup grade standards for the State.

A. "Grade A Light Amber" means pure maple syrup that is free of any material other than pure, clear liquid maple syrup in sanitary condition; has a color no darker than the federal Department of Agriculture's visual color standard light amber or has a color for light transmittance not less than 75.0% Tc; has a delicately sweet, original maple flavor; and has a density of at least the equivalent of 66.0° Brix at 60° Fahrenheit Modulus 145. Grade A Light Amber maple syrup must be free of sugar crystals and may not be damaged in any way.

B. "Grade A Medium Amber" means pure maple syrup that is free of any material other than pure, clear liquid maple syrup in sanitary condition; has a color no darker than the federal Department of Agriculture's visual color standard medium amber or has a color for light transmittance between the range of 74.9% Tc to 60.5% Tc; and may have a flavor that is more pronounced than that of Grade A Light Amber, but that is not strong or unpleasant. Grade A Medium Amber must meet the density requirement of Grade A Light Amber. Grade A Medium Amber maple syrup must be free of sugar crystals and may not be damaged in any way.

C. "Grade A Dark Amber" means pure maple syrup that is free of any material other than pure, clear liquid maple syrup in sanitary condition; has a color no darker than the federal Department of Agriculture's visual color standard dark amber or has a color for light transmittance between the range of 60.4%Tc to 44.0%Tc; and may have a flavor that is stronger than that of Grade A Medium Amber, but that is not sharp, bitter, buddy or off-flavor. Grade A Dark Amber must meet the density requirement of Grade A Light Amber. Grade A Dark Amber maple syrup must be free of sugar crystals and may not be damaged in any way.

D. "Grade A Extra Dark Amber" means pure maple syrup that is free of any material other than pure, clear liquid maple syrup in sanitary condition; has a color for light transmittance between the range of 43.9%Tc to 27.0%Tc; and may have a flavor stronger than Grade A Dark Amber. Grade A Extra Dark Amber must meet the density requirements of Grade A Light Amber. Grade A Extra Dark Amber maple syrup must be free of sugar crystals and may not be damaged in any way.