

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

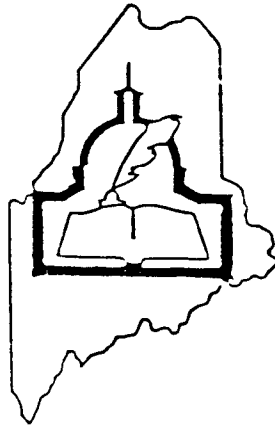
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

4. That the person holding containers purchased out-of-state affix to the container the sticker provided by the board;
5. That the board charge a fee for the cost of producing and distributing the stickers; and
6. That the board, or its designated agent, refund the deposit for those containers purchased out-of-state.

Section 2 fulfills the requirement of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1471-Q, subsection 3, that the Legislature adopt rules of the board establishing fees for container deposits.

LD: 1105	AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE LAWS REQUIRING CERTIFICATION OF SEED POTATOES	ERWIN E LISNIK CROUSE
OTP-AM	HOUSE Emerg. Enacted SENATE Emerg. Enacted GOV EMER UNSIGNED	PUBLIC CH # 184
S-63	CA	H S

SUMMARY:

This law amends the statute pertaining to minimum standards for planting seed potatoes in the State by requiring that all seed planted must have been certified in accordance with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. It gives the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources the power to issue subpoenas to potato growers to compel them to deliver reports and records to confirm the kind of seed planted and it authorizes the department to formulate rules designed to increase enforcement capability. Finally, it also changes the penalty for violation of the law from \$20 and a maximum of \$100 an acre.

LD: 1120	AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY OF THE HARNESS RACING COMMISSION TO LICENSE PARI-MUTUEL MEETS AND ASSIGN RACING DATES	MCCOLLISTER DAGGETT TARDY PARENT
OTP-AM	HOUSE Enacted SENATE Enacted GOV	
H-162	CA MAJ REP	H S
H-163	CB MIN REP	
H-443	CA MCCOLLISTER	
H-444	CA MICHAEL	
H-448	CA MICHAEL	H S

SUMMARY:

This law confirms and amplifies upon the authority of the Maine State Harness Racing Commission to award racing dates to qualified applicants under existing law. The original bill listed the criteria by which racing dates are to be assigned and specifically included among them guidelines for

the scheduling of overlapping race meets at the State's major tracks.

Concurrent racing at Scarborough and Lewiston Raceways was a major source of contention and the issue was resolved in committee amendment "A", the majority report (H-162), by restricting new concurrent racing to a trial (8 Day) period following an evaluation of its impact on the economic health of the industry.

LD: 1222 AN ACT TO COMPENSATE ASSOCIATIONS CONDUCTING WINTER HARNESS RACING MEETS MCGOWAN
JACQUES
MICHAUD

LU-WD HOUSE Accepted Committee Report
SENATE Accepted Committee Report
GOV

SUMMARY:

A bill, which was withdrawn by the sponsors, to provide a financial incentive for winter harness racing.

LD: 1316 AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE A VIABLE AGRICULTURE FOR MAINE ERWIN E
MICHAEL
CROUSE
TARDY

OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted
SENATE Enacted CH #482
GOV

S-105	CA		H	S
S-114	CA	DANTON	H	S
S-303	CA	PEARSON	H	S

SUMMARY:

This law establishes a process whereby the agricultural development programs of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources will be redirected to better address the differing agricultural needs and opportunities in various regions of the State and thereby to assist the agricultural community in responding appropriately to changing opportunities. It recognizes that agriculture is an important component of the State's rural economy and that the production and marketing opportunities for agriculture vary by region in accordance with differences in climate, soil, availability and cost of productive land and other production inputs, access to service, supply and marketing infrastructures and proximity to markets.

It provides for the redirection of state agricultural programs to reflect regional differences in agricultural needs and opportunities, guided by input from the local communities to be affected by the redirection. It provides for the identification of local lead agencies, giving preference to the 16 Soil and Water Conservation Districts, to collect local data, hold hearings and conduct meetings to