

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

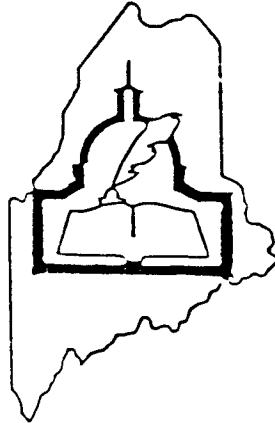
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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.

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A bill, which was withdrawn by the sponsors, to provide a financial incentive for winter harness racing.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

consider the constraints and potential for agriculture in the various regions and to advise the department in its redirection.

It establishes the Maine Agricultural Viability Advisory Committee to review the information gathered and advise the commissioner in redirecting programs and services of the department.

Funding for this amendment was included in the department's Part II Budget request for the next biennium to cover the program costs.

A Senate amendment (S-303) sponsored by Sen. Michael Pearson was adopted which requires the Commissioner of Agriculture to first establish a pilot program in 4 regions of the State to test the concept of viability.

LD: 1325 AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE LAW RELATING TO PURCHASE OF FOODSTUFFS FROM MAINE CONCERNS MICHAEL WHITCOMB
OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted PUBLIC
SENATE Enacted CH # 271
GOV SIGNED
H-189 CA H S

SUMMARY:

This law authorizes the state purchasing agent to establish an advisory committee within the State Government to assist in the job of increasing purchases between state and local institutions and Maine food producers.

LD: 1380 AN ACT TO AMEND THE MAINE MILK POOL LAW VOSE CAHILL CROUSE USHER
LU-WD HOUSE Accepted Committee Report
SENATE Accepted Committee Report
GOV

SUMMARY:

This bill proposed several adjustments to the Milk Pool Law. It was withdrawn by the sponsor.

LD: 1412 AN ACT TO SHORTEN THE FINAL PAY SETTLEMENT OF MILK DEALERS TO PRODUCERS MICHAEL WHITCOMB DAGGETT
ND: 304 HOUSE Enacted PUBLIC
SENATE Enacted CH # 172
GOV SIGNED

SUMMARY:

This law establishes a specific shedule for dealers to follow in making payment for milk purchased from milk