

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

August 2015

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 127th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

CARRIED OVER carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
CON RES XXX..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCY..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX..... chapter # of enacted public law
RESOLVE XXX..... chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature is October 15, 2015. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

representatives of the member entities of the farm-to-school work group established by Resolve 2009, chapter 106.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-239)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 1291

An Act To Promote Food Self-sufficiency for the People of the State

PUBLIC 347

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HICKMAN SAVIELLO	OTP-AM	H-447 S-330 HAMPER

This bill:

1. Directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, in coordination with various state agencies, to develop and administer an agricultural jobs network linking farms and facilities that process agricultural products grown in the State with available workers who are involved in farming or a local food industry or who are required to perform community service;
2. Directs the department, in coordination with various state agencies, to develop an educational marketing campaign to promote food self-sufficiency by encouraging the public to grow gardens, to raise farm animals and to preserve garden-grown food
3. Requires the department, to the extent practicable, to purchase food grown, harvested, prepared, processed or produced in the State when purchasing food for an emergency or supplemental food program for elderly or low-income persons; and
4. Grants municipalities, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the authority to regulate by ordinance the direct producer-to-customer exchange of all food grown, harvested, prepared, processed or produced in the municipality.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-447)

This amendment strikes language from the bill that allows a municipality to regulate by ordinance the direct producer-to-customer exchange of all food grown, harvested, prepared, processed or produced in the municipality.

The amendment clarifies the intent of the bill by requiring the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to use existing programs and resources in carrying out the provisions of the bill.

The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-330)

This amendment replaces the appropriations and allocations section to reduce funding related to a part-time Planning and Research Assistant position.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 347 directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, in coordination with various state agencies, to develop and administer an agricultural jobs network linking farms and facilities that process agricultural products grown in the State with available workers who are involved in farming or a local food industry or who are required to perform community service and to develop an educational marketing campaign to promote food self-sufficiency by encouraging the public to grow gardens, to raise farm animals and to preserve garden-grown food. This bill also requires the department, to the extent practicable, to purchase food grown,

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

harvested, prepared, processed or produced in the State when purchasing food for an emergency or supplemental food program for elderly or low-income persons.

LD 1326 An Act To Require Labeling of All Genetically Modified Products

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)

BURNS

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill makes the following changes to Maine's Genetically Modified Food Products Labeling Law.

1. It defines "genetically modified product," which includes genetically engineered seed stock, products from animals fed genetically engineered food and medicines that were manufactured with genetically engineered plants or animals to the laws regarding the labeling of genetically engineered products.
2. It requires the disclosure of genetic engineering of food, seed stock, products from animals fed genetically engineered food or medicines that were manufactured with genetically engineered plants or animals beginning January 1, 2017.
3. It provides that food, seed stock, products from animals fed genetically engineered food and medicines for which the disclosure is not made are considered to be misbranded and subject to the sanctions for misbranding.
4. It removes exemptions for products produced without knowledge that the products, or items used in their production, were genetically engineered; animal products derived from an animal that was not genetically engineered but was fed genetically engineered food; and products with only a minimum content produced by genetic engineering.
5. It removes the exemption from disclosure requirements as regards restaurants, alcoholic beverages or medical food.
6. It increases the penalties for nondisclosure and misbranding to a Class E crime for the first offense and a Class D crime for the second and subsequent offenses.
7. It repeals the contingent effective date established by Public Law 2013, chapter 436, section 2, subsection 1.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 1376 An Act To Establish a Local Food Producers and Processors to Consumers Pilot Program

**Died On
Adjournment**

Sponsor(s)

LANGLEY
WARD

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

S-284

This bill establishes the Local Food Producers and Processors to Consumers Pilot Program. The pilot program exempts local producers and processors in the towns of Blue Hill, Brooksville, Penobscot, Sedgwick and Brooklin, all of which have adopted local food self-governance ordinances, from all state licensure and inspection requirements with respect to the production and processing of local foods for sale directly to consumers. The pilot program is repealed in 2022.