MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

 132^{ND} Legislature First Regular and First Special Sessions



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

August 2025

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

LD 1072 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Land for Maine's Future Program and to Authorize the Use of Options to Purchase at Agricultural Value

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 471 amends the laws governing the Land for Maine's Future program and the Land for Maine's Future Board within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry in the following ways.

- 1. It defines "interest in property" to include both fee and less-than-fee simple interest for purposes of acquiring property and interests in property.
- 2. It requires the board to provide public notice of its intent to determine the final award for the land offered for acquisition.
- 3. It authorizes the board to use its discretion in determining whether to make an award.
- 4. It provides that the board may not fund the acquisition of a fee interest in land used for commercially harvested or harvestable forest land.
- 5. It requires that land acquired by the board have clear title.
- 6. It authorizes the creation of an option to purchase at agricultural value, which is defined as an agreement between a fee owner of working farmland property and a governmental entity or nonprofit organization that permits the governmental entity or nonprofit organization to control the purchase price of working farmland property for the purpose of making available and affordable and preserving the permanent availability and affordability of that property as working farmland.
- 7. It amends the reporting requirements for conservation easements and parcels of land owned in fee for conservation purposes.
- 8. It also clarifies that fee interests in land acquired under the Land for Maine's Future Program in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 353 and held by the State may not be sold or used for purposes other than those stated in chapter 353, unless approved by a 2/3 majority of the Legislature.

LD 1198 Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Assess Its Current Meat and Poultry Inspection Programs

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 41 directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to conduct a review of programs and processes related to meat and poultry inspections, including