

## **131st MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

 Legislative Document
 No. 1916

S.P. 778

In Senate, May 9, 2023

An Act to Classify Meat and Poultry Products Inspections as Essential Services

(AFTER DEADLINE)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing suggested and ordered printed.

h GT

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot. Cosponsored by Representative FOSTER of Dexter and Senators: BRENNER of Cumberland, HICKMAN of Kennebec, INGWERSEN of York, Representatives: COSTAIN of Plymouth, CRAY of Palmyra, DILL of Old Town, OSHER of Orono, PLUECKER of Warren.

| 1              | Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:  |
|----------------|--|
| 2<br>3         | Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §742, sub-§1, ¶E, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 28, Pt. C, §1, is amended to read:   |
| 4<br>5         | E. In dealing with a declared state of emergency under this subsection, the Governor shall ensure that:  |
| 6<br>7<br>8    | (1) Medical privacy and confidentiality requirements, including but not limited to requirements under the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, are followed; and                               |
| 9<br>10        | (2) Health care services and surgeries are not considered to be nonessential services.; and  |
| 11<br>12       | (3) Inspections under the meat and poultry products inspection and licensing program under Title 22, chapter 562-A are considered to be essential services.  |
| 13             | SUMMARY  |
| 14<br>15<br>16 | This bill requires the Governor, in dealing with a declared state of emergency, to ensure<br>that inspections under the meat and poultry products inspection and licensing program are<br>considered to be essential services. |