1	L.D. 1167
2	Date: (Filing No. H-)
3	AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY
4	Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
5	STATE OF MAINE
6	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7	129TH LEGISLATURE
8	SECOND REGULAR SESSION
9 10	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "" to H.P. 850, L.D. 1167, Bill, "An Act To Increase Consumption of Maine Foods in State Institutions"
11 12	Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:
13	'Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §211, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 608, §2, is amended to read:
14	§211. Statement of policy
15 16 17 18 19 20	It is the policy of the State to encourage <u>the procurement of Maine foods and food</u> products by state institutions to increase the viability of Maine farms and food businesses, <u>thus making a positive contribution to the State's economy and enhancing</u> food self-sufficiency for the State. State institutions and school districts in the State shall purchase food produced by Maine farmers or fishermen, provided that food is available in adequate quantity and meets acceptable quality standards, and is priced competitively.
21	Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §212, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 608, §2, is repealed.
22 23	Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §212, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 608, §2, is amended to read:
24 25 26 27	2. Maine food producer. "Maine food producer" means any person who is a resident farmer or fisherman, person who fishes commercially or processor of food grown or harvested in the State, or an association of resident farmers or fishermen, persons who fish commercially or food processors in a cooperative or producer group.
28 29	Sec. 4. 7 MRSA §212, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1989, c. 443, §18 and PL 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §2 and affected by §4, is repealed.
30	Sec. 5. 7 MRSA §213, as amended by PL 2005, c. 382, Pt. C, §1, is repealed.
31 32	Sec. 6. 7 MRSA §214, as amended by PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. EE, §12 and affected by §30, is repealed.
33	Sec. 7. 7 MRSA §214-A is enacted to read:

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1 §214-A. Maine foods procurement program In accordance with this section, the commissioner shall establish and promote a 2 Maine foods procurement program with the goal that, no later than 2025, 20% of all food 3 and food products procured by state institutions are Maine food or food products. 4 1. Institutional market development coordinator. The commissioner shall 5 designate an employee of the department as an institutional market development 6 7 coordinator to serve as a representative to assist in the development of connections 8 between state purchasers, Maine food producers, distributors and other institutional stakeholders. 9 10 Guidelines. The commissioner shall establish guidelines to assist state 2. institutions to assess their ability to procure Maine foods and food products while 11 12 minimizing costs for that procurement. 13 3. Annual meeting. The institutional market development coordinator may convene 14 an annual meeting that brings together Maine food producers and food service professionals to enhance opportunities for cooperation and expand the purchase of Maine 15 16 foods and food products by state institutions. 17 4. Advisory committee. The commissioner may establish an advisory committee to discuss strategies for expanding purchases of Maine foods and food products by state 18 institutions. The advisory committee may be composed of representatives of state 19 agencies, for-profit and nonprofit institutions and other relevant stakeholders identified 20 21 by the commissioner. 22 5. **Report.** The commissioner shall include a description of the progress toward 23 reaching the goal under this section in the biennial report submitted to the Legislature 24 pursuant to section 2, subsection 5. Sec. 8. 7 MRSA §215, as amended by PL 1989, c. 700, Pt. A, §31, is repealed. 25 Sec. 9. 7 MRSA §215-A is enacted to read: 26 27 §215-A. Rule-making authority The commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this 28 29 subchapter. The rules must establish a method and baseline to determine the percentage of Maine food or food products procured by state institutions based on dollars spent. 30 Rules adopted under this subsection are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, 31 chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. 32 33 Sec. 10. 7 MRSA §218, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 614, §4, is repealed. Sec. 11. 7 MRSA §218-A is enacted to read: 34 35 §218-A. Direct producer-to-consumer agriculture market programs 1. Education and outreach. The commissioner shall provide education and 36 37 outreach for the purpose of supporting Maine foods providers, such as farmers' markets, farm stands, community-supported agriculture programs and other direct producer-to-38 consumer venues to further the goal established in this chapter. 39

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12. Access to Maine foods and food products for recipients of benefits. The2commissioner shall improve access to Maine foods and food products for recipients of3benefits under any food supplement program administered by the Department of Health4and Human Services under Title 22 by:

- 5 A. Expanding opportunities for farmers to sell Maine foods and food products to 6 recipients of food supplement program benefits by promoting the use of electronic 7 benefits transfer cards at farmers' markets and, in partnership with a statewide 8 federation of farmers' markets, encouraging participation in community-supported 9 agriculture by recipients of food supplement program benefits;
- 10B. Assisting farmers' markets in accepting payments through the electronic benefits11transfer system by helping them secure equipment, including equipment that does not12require the use of electricity, for processing payments through the electronic benefits13transfer system; and
- C. In partnership with the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, educating
 recipients of food supplement program benefits of the opportunity to use the benefits
 at farmers' markets and the advantages of such use.
- 17 Sec. 12. 7 MRSA c. 8-A, sub-c. 3, as amended, is repealed.'

20

18 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or 19 section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

21 This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. The amendment provides that it is the policy of the State to encourage the procurement of Maine foods and food products by 22 state institutions to increase the viability of Maine farms and food businesses, thus 23 making a positive contribution to the State's economy and enhancing food self-24 25 sufficiency for the State. The amendment directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to establish and promote a Maine foods procurement program 26 with the goal that, no later than 2025, 20% of food and food products procured by state 27 institutions are Maine food or food products. 28

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