

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

S.P. 591 - L.D. 1450

**An Act Regarding the Voluntary Municipal Farm Support Program**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

**Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §60, sub-§3, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 301, §1, is amended to read:

B. Is limited to a term of not less than ~~20~~ 10 years.

**Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §60-A, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 693, §2, is further amended to read:

**1. Program.** ~~In~~ The Voluntary Municipal Farm Support Program is established in order to protect and support local farms, preserve farmland and reduce the potential tax burdens from new development fiscal burden for participating municipalities that results from new development in rural areas. Under this program, a municipality may enter into farm support arrangements with the owners of qualified farmland.

A. A farm support arrangement must be approved by majority vote of the municipality's legislative body or municipal officers or by a municipal employee appointed by the municipal officers and designated to review and approve farm support arrangements.

B. Unless approved by a 2/3 vote of the municipality's legislative body, the municipality may not enter into farm support arrangements:

- (1) Affecting more than 3% of the total annual valuation of taxable land in the municipality; ~~and~~ or
- (2) In any calendar year, affecting more than 1% of the total annual valuation of taxable land in the municipality.

**Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §60-A, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 301, §1, is amended to read:

**4. Rules.** The department shall adopt rules governing farm support arrangements. Rules adopted under this subsection are ~~major substantive~~ routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.