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AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 523, L.D. 834, “An Act to Ensure Transparency in the Labeling of Meat as Grass-fed”

Amend the bill in section 3 in subsection 17 by striking out all of the first blocked paragraph (page 1, lines 17 to 21 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

For purposes of this subsection, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Acceptable additional feed" means hay, haylage, baleage, silage, crop residue without grain and other sources of roughage as well as routine mineral and vitamin supplementation.

B. "Forage" means annual or perennial grasses, forbs and other browse. "Forage" also includes cereal grain crops in the vegetative stage of growth.

C. "Grass-fed" means, with respect to meat or a meat product, that the ruminant animal from which the meat was derived:

(1) Consumed only forage and acceptable additional feed during its lifetime with the exception of milk consumed prior to its weaning; and

(2) Had continuous access to pasture during each growing season until slaughter.'

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

SUMMARY

This amendment revises the definition of "grass-fed" to more closely align with the United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service guidelines for meat product labels with animal raising claims.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT