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**An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Joint
Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and
Forestry under the State Government Evaluation Act**

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

Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §959, sub-§1, ¶A, as amended by PL 2009, c. 552, §1, is further amended to read:

A. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and forestry matters shall use the following list as a guideline for scheduling reviews:

- (1) Baxter State Park Authority in 2017;
- (2) Department of Conservation in ~~2011~~2019;
- (3) ~~Blueberry Advisory Committee in 2011;~~
- (4) Board of Pesticides Control in ~~2011~~2019;
- (5) Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine in ~~2011~~2019;
- (6) ~~Seed Potato Board in 2011;~~
- (7) Maine Dairy and Nutrition Council in 2015;
- (8) Maine Dairy Promotion Board in 2015;
- (9) Maine Milk Commission in 2015;
- (10) State Harness Racing Commission in 2015;
- (11) Maine Agricultural Bargaining Board in 2017;
- (12) Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources in 2017; and

(14) Land for Maine's Future Board in 2015.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §4312-C, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 511, §21 and affected by §25, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

4. Term. Members are appointed to staggered 4-year terms so that the terms of 2 members expire on August 31st of every year. If the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources fails to make an appointment prior to the expiration of a member's term, that member continues to serve until the commissioner makes an appointment for the remainder of that term. If a vacancy occurs prior to the expiration of a specified term, the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources shall appoint an individual to serve only the remainder of that term.

Sec. 3. Report from Maine Potato Board. No later than January 15, 2013, the Maine Potato Board shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters regarding the activities of the Seed Potato Board. The report must include a summary of the production, distribution and sales of seed potatoes in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Sec. 4. Staggered terms. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 4312-C, subsection 4, the terms of members serving on the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine on the effective date of this Act expire at the discretion of the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to accommodate the transition to terms beginning on September 1st. No later than August 15, 2012, the commissioner shall appoint 2 members to begin 4-year terms on September 1, 2012. In subsequent years, the commissioner shall appoint 2 members whose terms begin on September 1, 2013; 2 whose terms begin on September 1, 2014; and 2 whose terms begin on September 1, 2015.

SUMMARY

This bill is the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 955, subsection 4. It establishes dates for the next review of agencies under the State Government Evaluation Act. It removes the Blueberry Advisory Committee and the Seed Potato Board from the list of agencies to be reviewed. It ensures continuing staggered terms for members of the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine. It requires the Maine Potato Board to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters on seed potato production, distribution and sales no later than January 15, 2013.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)