



# 125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

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Legislative Document

No. 1207

H.P. 898

House of Representatives, March 22, 2011

### **An Act To Amend the Labor Laws Relating to Certain Agricultural Employees**

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Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CRAFTS of Lisbon.  
Cosponsored by Senator MASON of Androscoggin and  
Representatives: BLACK of Wilton, BURNS of Alfred, FREDETTE of Newport, LIBBY of  
Waterboro, NEWENDYKE of Litchfield, WINTLE of Garland, WOOD of Sabattus.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §663, sub-§3, ¶A,** as amended by PL 1975, c. 717, §5, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 A. Any individual employed in agriculture as defined in the Maine Employment  
5 Security Law and the Federal Unemployment Insurance Tax Law, ~~except when that~~  
6 ~~individual performs services for or on a farm with over 300,000 laying birds;~~

7 **Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §664, sub-§3, ¶F,** as amended by PL 2001, c. 628, §2 and  
8 affected by §5, is further amended to read:

9 F. The canning, processing, preserving, freezing, drying, marketing, storing, packing  
10 for shipment or distribution of:

- 11 (1) Agricultural produce;
- 12 (2) Meat and fish products; and
- 13 (3) Perishable foods;

14 ~~Individuals employed, directly or indirectly, for or at an egg processing facility that~~  
15 ~~has over 300,000 laying birds must be paid overtime in accordance with this~~  
16 ~~subsection;~~

17 **Sec. 3. 26 MRSA c. 16,** as amended, is repealed.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill removes the provision that requires that individuals employed for or at an  
20 egg processing facility that has over 300,000 laying birds be paid overtime. It also  
21 repeals the laws that govern labor relations between agricultural workers and an  
22 agricultural employer that operates an egg processing facility that has over 500,000  
23 laying birds and that employs more than 100 agricultural employees.