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Date: (Filing No. H-)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 998, L.D. 1446, Bill, “An Act Regarding the Confidentiality of Information in the Animal Welfare Laws”

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 6 in the first line (page 1, line 4 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "The" and inserting the following: 'Except as provided in this subsection, the'

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 6 in the last line (page 1, line 10 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "not confidential information and may be released" and inserting the following: 'confidential information and may be released only if the commissioner determines that it is in the best interest of the public'

Amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 4 in the first line (page 1, line 13 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "The" and inserting the following: 'Except as provided in this subsection, the'

Amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 4 in the last 2 lines (page 1, lines 20 and 21 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "not confidential information and may be released" and inserting the following: 'confidential information and may be released only if the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry determines that it is in the best interest of the public'

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, provides that the names of and identifying information about persons who have contracted with or been hired by an entity for the purpose of filming or recording business operations of another entity in order to provide information pertaining to criminal or civil cruelty to animals to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may not be made public unless the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry determines that it is in the best interest of the public.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT