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Date: (Filing No. H-)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1037, L.D. 1612, “An Act to Address Food Insecurity and Support Local Agriculture”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to contract with Preble Street Food Security Hub. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may contract with Preble Street Food Security Hub to help address food insecurity throughout the State. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the contract entered into pursuant to this section is not subject to the competitive bid requirements of the State Purchasing Agent under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1825-B.

Sec. 2. Report. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall submit a report, no later than March 1, 2024, to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry on how the money appropriated under section 3 was spent. The department shall require Preble Street Food Security Hub to report to the department how the money it received under section 3 was spent as a condition of receiving the contract.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF
Fund To Address Food Insecurity and Provide Nutrition Incentives Z329**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to contract with Preble Street Food Security Hub to help address food insecurity throughout the State.

GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$2,000,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$2,000,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and clarifies that the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry is authorized to contract with Preble Street Food Security Hub to help address food insecurity throughout the State. The amendment also specifies that this contract between the department and Preble Street Food Security Hub is not subject to competitive bid requirements of the State Purchasing Agent. The amendment also changes the date, from December 6, 2023 to March 1, 2024, the department is required to report on the distribution of the funds by Preble Street Food Security Hub.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)