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Date: (Filing No. H-)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
129TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1485, L.D. 2084, Bill, “An Act Prohibiting Certain Confinement of Egg-laying Hens and the Sale of Their Eggs”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §4021 in subsection 2 in the first line (page 2, line 15 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "2024" and inserting the following: '2029'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §4021 in subsection 2 in paragraph B in the last line (page 2, line 27 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "violates" and inserting the following: 'conflicts with the standards in'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §4021 by striking out all of subsection 3 and inserting the following:

3. Exceptions. Subsection 2 does not apply to:

A. A farm owner or operator or a business owner or operator who owns or leases fewer than 3,000 adult egg-laying hens at a given time in the State and whose egg-laying hens' eggs will be consumed by humans; and

B. An egg-laying hen:

(1) While the egg-laying hen is the subject of medical research;

(2) During the examination, testing, individual treatment of or operation on the egg-laying hen for veterinary purposes when performed by or under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian;

(3) While the egg-laying hen is being transported;

(4) At a state or county fair exhibition, 4-H event or similar exhibition;

(5) During slaughter in accordance with any applicable laws, rules and regulations; and

(6) During temporary periods for animal husbandry purposes, which may total no more than 6 hours in any 24-hour period and no more than 24 hours in any 30-day period.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 Amend the bill in section 1 in §4021 in subsection 4 in the last line (page 3, line 4 in
2 L.D.) by striking out the following: "violation of" and inserting the following: 'a manner
3 that conflicts with the standards in'

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

6 SUMMARY

7 The bill provides that:

8 1. Farm owners or operators in the State may not knowingly confine an egg-laying
9 hen in an enclosure that is not a cage-free housing system or in an enclosure with less
10 than a certain amount of usable floor space per egg-laying hen; and

11 2. Business owners or operators may not knowingly sell in the State eggs from egg-
12 laying hens that are not kept in cage-free housing systems.

13 This amendment, which is the minority report, changes the date the prohibitions will
14 go into effect from after December 31, 2024 to after December 31, 2029.

15 The amendment also provides that the prohibitions does not apply to a farm owner or
16 operator or a business owner or operator who owns or leases fewer than 3,000 adult egg-
17 laying hens at a given time in the State and whose hens' eggs will be consumed by
18 humans.

19 FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

20 (See attached)