



STATE OF MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL SERVICES

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*SERVING THE PUBLIC AND DELIVERING ESSENTIAL SERVICES TO STATE GOVERNMENT*

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COMMISSIONER

*Testimony of Anya Trundy, Deputy Commissioner  
Department of Administrative and Financial Services  
Testifying Neither For Nor Against*

## **LD 1141, An Act to Increase the Procurement of Maine Foods by State-funded Institutions**

*Sponsored by Sen. Craig Hickman  
Before the Joint State Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry*

Senator Talbot Ross, Representative Pluecker, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry: I am Anya Trundy, a Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Administrative and Financial Services (DAFS), and I am providing testimony today Neither For Nor Against LD 1141, An Act to Increase the Procurement of Maine Foods by State-funded Institutions.

DAFS's was initially concerned that the bill as drafted proposed establishing a separate program to oversee the procurement for food under the Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry (DACF) under the State purchasing laws in *Title 5, Chapter 155*. However, after meeting with the sponsor and other interested State agencies, we anticipate a forthcoming amendment will alleviate our initial concerns, and DAFS wants to communicate our unwavering commitment assisting our fellow agencies in the procurement of local grown food and to use the State's purchasing power to support the local economy.

Commodities, including food products, purchased in large quantities across multiple departments on an ongoing basis are purchased primarily under master agreements that are the result of a competitive solicitation and award process. While the State's current "Food General, Prime Food Vendor Services" master agreement is with Sysco, this and other food related master agreements do allow for off-contract purchasing when certain conditions are satisfied, such as when an item would be at least 20% less expensive than under the master agreement, or when an item or its equivalent is not available from the master agreement vendor. The Department of Corrections has detailed in their testimony, how they utilize off-contract "opportunity buys" to purchase from local food vendors.

The Office of State Procurement Services has worked closely with Food Service Managers for State institutions, particularly DOC in recent months, to streamline the necessary purchasing documentation so that agency Food Service Managers can act quickly to purchase from local

food producers when both need and opportunity arise. DAFS is committed to continuing these conversations to facilitate State institutions' increased purchase of local food. As relationships between local food producers and institutional buyers, not just State institutions, are cultivated and grow, we would expect the State's procurement of food to evolve.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, I am happy to answer questions from the Committee.