



April 1, 2025

Good morning, Senator Talbot-Ross , Representative Pluecker, and distinguished members of the Agriculture , Conservation and Forestry Committee. My name is Barry W. Norris, I'm the Executive Director of the Maine Association of Agriculture Fairs, and we represent the 25 licensed agricultural fairs in the State of Maine.

First, on behalf of our fairs I'd like to thank Senator Hickman for presenting LD 1213 as well as all of the cosponsors.

I am here today to speak in favor of LD 1213 for our fairs. Without taking the committee's time, I believe the bill summarizes the intent to broaden the ability for the Commissioner to allow for additional agricultural education events in a timely manner, without having to come to the committee each time a new event is proposed.

This will allow the fairs to come up with events that can be stipended with ongoing communications with the department.

Thank you for your time and I'll make myself available for the work session.

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