



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 725

S.P. 242

In Senate, February 28, 2017

### **An Act To Recognize Local Control Regarding Food and Water Systems**

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Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Representative HICKMAN of Winthrop and  
Senators: LANGLEY of Hancock, MIRAMANT of Knox, Representatives: DUNPHY of Old  
Town, MARTIN of Eagle Lake.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 7-A MRSA §101, sub-§2-B** is enacted to read:

3 **2-B. Local food system.** "Local food system" means a community food system  
4 within a municipality that integrates food production, processing, consumption, direct  
5 producer-to-consumer exchanges and other traditional foodways to enhance the  
6 environmental, economic, social and nutritional health and well-being of the municipality  
7 and its residents.

8 **Sec. 2. 7-A MRSA §201-B** is enacted to read:

9 **§201-B. Local authority to regulate water and food systems**

10 Pursuant to the home rule authority granted to municipalities by Title 30-A, section  
11 3001 and by the Constitution of Maine, Article VIII, Part Second, and pursuant to section  
12 201-A, and notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a municipal  
13 government may regulate by ordinance local food systems and the transport of water for  
14 commercial purposes beyond the boundaries of the municipality, and the State shall  
15 recognize such ordinances.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill authorizes municipal governments to regulate local food systems and the  
18 transport of water for commercial purposes by ordinance and requires the State to  
19 recognize such ordinances.