

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

## **An Act To Allow Nonmember Directors To Serve on the Board of Cooperative Agricultural Associations**

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

**Sec. 1. 13 MRSA §1871, sub-§1** is amended to read:

**1. Membership; term.** The business of the association shall be managed by a board of not less than 3 directors. The directors shall ~~be~~must be members of the association or officers, general managers, directors or members of a member association, except that the members of the association may elect, pursuant to the bylaws of the association, to allow the election of nonmember directors of the association by the board of directors, as long as the number of nonmember directors does not exceed 25% of the total number of duly elected member directors. A director shall hold office for the term for which ~~he~~the director was named or elected and until ~~his~~the director's successor is elected and qualified.

### **SUMMARY**

Under current law, the board of directors of a cooperative agricultural association consists of members of the association. This bill specifically allows members of an association to allow the election of nonmember directors, as long as the number of nonmember directors does not exceed 25% of the total number of member directors.