



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 574

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H.P. 419

House of Representatives, February 24, 2021

### An Act To Clarify the Maine Food Sovereignty Act

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Received by the Clerk of the House on February 22, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative PLUECKER of Warren.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, McCREA of Fort  
Fairfield, O'NEIL of Saco, OSHER of Orono, Senator: MAXMIN of Lincoln.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §282, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 314, §1, is amended to  
3 read:

4 **1. Direct producer-to-consumer transaction.** "Direct producer-to-consumer  
5 transaction" means ~~a face-to-face transaction involving~~ an exchange of food or food  
6 products ~~at the site of production of those food or food products~~ directly between a producer  
7 and a consumer in a manner mutually agreed upon by the producer and the consumer of  
8 the food or food products.

9 **Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §284, 2nd ¶** is enacted to read:

10 Pursuant to Title 30-A, section 7501, subsection 10 and notwithstanding any provision  
11 of state law regulating food to the contrary, except as contained in section 285, a county  
12 may adopt ordinances regarding direct producer-to-consumer transactions and the State  
13 shall recognize such an ordinance by not enforcing those state laws with respect to those  
14 direct producer-to-consumer transactions that are governed by the ordinance.

15 **Sec. 3. 30-A MRSA §7051, sub-§11**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 138, §1, is further  
16 amended to read:

17 **11. Ordinances.** Chapter 141, but only with respect to animal control ordinances,  
18 subject to Title 7, section 3950, direct producer-to-consumer transactions pursuant to Title  
19 7, section 284, the sale and use of consumer fireworks within the plantation, subject to Title  
20 8, section 223-A, and the accumulation of garbage, refuse, rubbish or trash or unwanted or  
21 discarded material of any kind or source on private property.

22 **Sec. 4. 30-A MRSA §7501, sub-§8**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 106, §2, is further  
23 amended to read:

24 **8. Enhanced 9-1-1 service.** Assigning and maintaining physical addresses  
25 specifically for the purpose of statewide enhanced 9-1-1 service. The county  
26 commissioners may enact an ordinance to establish the addressing standards and, pursuant  
27 to that ordinance, may assign road names to existing and proposed roads and property  
28 numbers to existing and proposed year-round and seasonal dwellings or structures and may  
29 install signs designating road names; ~~and~~

30 **Sec. 5. 30-A MRSA §7501, sub-§9**, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 106, §3, is amended  
31 to read:

32 **9. Animal control.** Animal control services. The county commissioners may enact an  
33 ordinance for the purpose of animal control. The county commissioners shall give 14 days  
34 notice of the meeting at which the ordinance is to be proposed in the manner provided for  
35 town meetings; ~~and~~

36 **Sec. 6. 30-A MRSA §7501, sub-§10** is enacted to read:

37 **10. Producer-to-consumer transactions.** Regulation of direct producer-to-consumer  
38 transactions. The county commissioners may enact ordinances regarding direct producer-  
39 to-consumer transactions pursuant to the Maine Food Sovereignty Act.

**SUMMARY**

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This bill clarifies the Maine Food Sovereignty Act. The bill amends the definition of "direct producer-to-consumer transaction" to mean any exchange of food or food products directly between a producer and a consumer in a manner mutually agreed upon by the producer and consumer of the food or food products rather than face-to-face transactions at the site of production. The bill also provides that counties have the same authority as municipalities to adopt direct producer-to-consumer ordinances under the Maine Food Sovereignty Act.