

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

Amend the resolve in the 3rd paragraph after the title in the 2nd line (page 1, line 8 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "communities and" and inserting the following: 'communities,'

Amend the resolve in the 3rd paragraph after the title in the 3rd line (page 1, line 9 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "stewardship" the following: 'and realize the goals of the State's food policy'

Amend the resolve in section 1 in the first line (page 1, line 18 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "Education" the following: ', the Department of Health and Human Services'

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 2 and 3 and inserting the following:

‘Sec. 2 Participants. Resolved: That, in conducting the review and developing recommendations, the departments shall invite the participation of the following agencies, groups and organizations:

1. The University of Maine Cooperative Extension;
2. The Maine School Food Service Association;
3. The Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association;
4. The Maine Center for Public Health;
5. The Maine Nutrition Network;
6. The Maine Agriculture in the Classroom Program Association;
7. The Healthy Maine Partnerships;
8. Healthy Oxford Hills;
9. Focus on Agriculture in Rural Maine Schools;
10. Maine Harvest Lunch Program;
11. Western Mountains Alliance;
12. Maine agricultural commodity groups; and
13. Other statewide organizations involved in supporting Maine agriculture, public health, the environment and the Maine economy; and be it further

Sec. 3 Duties. Resolved: That the departments, with input from and in consultation with the participants set forth in section 2, shall:

1. Assess the status of regional and statewide farm-to-school efforts throughout the State, including policies, practices and curricula;
2. Review the existing capacities of and barriers to facilitating the purchase and use of local products;
3. Review the status of networking channels that connect farm-to-school efforts throughout the State;

4. Review best practices and evaluate methods from other farm-to-school programs outside the State; and
5. Prepare recommendations for strengthening farm-to-school initiatives and programs within the State; and be it further'

SUMMARY

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services along with the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Resources to convene a work group. It removes the Department of Health and Human Services from the list of participants as the department will be in a leadership role with the other 2 departments. It also modifies the list of those invited to participate.