

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

Amend the bill in section 1 in §1708 in subsection 1 in the 3rd line (page 1, line 6 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "if" and inserting the following: 'only if'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §1708 by striking out all of subsection 4 and inserting the following:

4. Confidentiality. Information provided to the commissioner for participation in the system, whether the system is mandatory or voluntary, is confidential and may not be disclosed, except that the commissioner may release a record, data or information collected under this section to another governmental entity as the commissioner determines necessary to prevent or control disease or to protect public health, safety or welfare. The commissioner may publish and release as public information summary reports using aggregate data that does not reveal the activities of an individual person or firm.'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §1708 by inserting after subsection 5 the following:

6. Repeal. This section is repealed January 1, 2013.'

SUMMARY

This amendment clarifies that the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources is authorized to adopt rules to implement a national animal identification system only if the system becomes mandatory through action at the federal level. It also revises the confidentiality provision in the bill to clarify that information provided to the commissioner under either a mandatory or voluntary system is confidential. The commissioner is authorized to disclose information to government entities if disclosure is necessary to prevent or control disease or to protect the public. The commissioner may publish and release as public information summary reports using aggregate data that does not reveal the activities of an individual person or firm. This amendment also adds an automatic repeal date of January 1, 2013.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)