

**Amendment to LD 220 -
An Act to Support Maine’s Potato Farmers and Processors**
Proposed by Representative Guerrette
April 12, 2023

Amend the bill by striking the title and inserting the following:

An Act to Support Maine’s Potato Farmers

Amend the bill by striking everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE

Potato Marketing Improvement Fund

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to be used for grants to potato farmers for the development of sustainable irrigation water sources that meet Department of Environmental Protection Chapter 587 rules relating to in-stream flows and lake and pond water levels.

	2023-24
	\$3,000,000
Total	\$3,000,000

Sec. 2. Transfer from General Fund unappropriated surplus; grants to potato farmers for sustainable water sources. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Controller shall transfer \$3,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Potato Marketing Improvement Fund established under Maine Revised Statutes Title 10, section 1023-N to be used for grants to potato farmers for the development of sustainable irrigation water sources that meet the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection Chapter 587 rules relating to in-stream flows and lake and pond water levels. A grant award to an applicant for a project under this section may not be more \$200,000 and may not exceed 75% of the total project cost.

SUMMARY

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. The amendment provides one-time funding of \$3 million in SFY 2024 from the unappropriated surplus of General Fund to the Potato Marketing Improvement Fund established under Maine Revised Statutes Title 10, section 1023-N to be used for grants to potato farmers for the development of sustainable irrigation water sources that meet the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection Chapter 587 rules relating to in-stream flows and lake and pond water levels.