



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1213

S.P. 502

In Senate, March 20, 2025

**An Act to Allow the Premiums and Gratuities Paid for Any
Agricultural Events Approved by the Commissioner of Agriculture,
Conservation and Forestry to Be Considered in Apportionment of
Stipends to Agricultural Fairs**

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative HALL of Wilton and
Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, BLACK of Franklin, STEWART of Aroostook,
Representatives: COOPER of Windham, CRAY of Palmyra, GUERRETTE of Caribou,
JACKSON of Oxford, WADSWORTH of Hiram.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §86, sub-§5, ¶I**, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 563, §3, is amended to
3 read:

4 I. Pulling contests for equines and oxen; ~~and~~

5 **Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §86, sub-§5, ¶J**, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 563, §3, is amended
6 to read:

7 J. Pulling contests for farm tractors and pickup trucks; ~~and~~

8 **Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §86, sub-§5, ¶K** is enacted to read:

9 K. Any other agricultural event approved by the commissioner.

10 **SUMMARY**

11 This bill modifies the provisions of law governing distribution of stipends to persons
12 or entities licensed to hold an agricultural fair.

13 Under current law, after certain distributions are made from the Stipend Fund pursuant
14 to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7, section 86, the amount remaining is distributed
15 among fair licensees meeting certain requirements. Distributions are based on premiums
16 and gratuities actually paid by the licensees. The current law limits the use of premiums
17 and gratuities for determination of apportionment to premiums and gratuities paid for
18 certain specified activities and events.

19 The bill broadens the activities and events that may be considered in the calculation of
20 apportionment for stipends by specifying that, in addition to the activities and events
21 considered under current law, any other agricultural event approved by the Commissioner
22 of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may be used to determine the apportionment.