

129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 569

H.P. 413

House of Representatives, February 5, 2019

Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Submit to the United States Secretary of Agriculture a Plan for Continued Implementation of the Maine Industrial Hemp Program

(EMERGENCY)

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

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative HICKMAN of Winthrop. Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and Representatives: LANDRY of Farmington, MAREAN of Hollis, MAXMIN of Nobleboro, STANLEY of Medway, TALBOT ROSS of Portland, Senators: BLACK of Franklin, DILL of Penobscot, MIRAMANT of Knox.

- 1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and
- 3 **Whereas,** the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry currently 4 oversees Maine's industrial hemp program; and
- 5 **Whereas,** under the federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, which took 6 effect on January 1, 2019, states that wish to retain primary regulatory authority over the 7 production of hemp must devise and submit a plan to the United States Secretary of 8 Agriculture; and
- 9 Whereas, it is critical that Maine obtain federal approval to continue 10 implementation of Maine's industrial hemp program; and
- 11 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 12 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as 13 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, 14 therefore, be it
- 15 Sec. 1. Development and submission of plan. Resolved: That, in accordance 16 with the federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, the Department of Agriculture, 17 Conservation and Forestry shall submit, within 90 days of the effective date of this 18 resolve, a plan to the United States Secretary of Agriculture to continue the State's 19 industrial hemp program and to regulate hemp in accordance with federal requirements.
- 20 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this 21 legislation takes effect when approved.
- 22

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to submit a plan to the United States Secretary of Agriculture to continue Maine's industrial hemp program and to regulate hemp in accordance with federal requirements.