



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 292

H.P. 201

House of Representatives, February 7, 2013

An Act To Protect the Public Health from Mosquito-borne Diseases

Submitted by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative GIFFORD of Lincoln.
Cosponsored by Senator SHERMAN of Aroostook and
Representatives: BLACK of Wilton, CRAY of Palmyra, SAUCIER of Presque Isle.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA c. 6-A** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 6-A**

4 **CONTROL OF MOSQUITOES**

5 **§171. Control of mosquitoes for protection of public health; state policy**

6 It is the policy of the State to undertake appropriate activities to reduce
7 disease-carrying mosquito populations that threaten the health of residents of this State.
8 The State shall use a wide array of integrated pest management techniques and other
9 science-based technology in a manner that minimizes the risks of pesticide use to humans
10 and the environment.

11 **§172. Department lead agency; powers of commissioner**

12 The department is the lead agency of the State for carrying out mosquito-control
13 activities as described in this chapter.

14 The commissioner may use all lawful methods for the control of mosquitoes and the
15 prevention of their breeding, including conducting or contracting for mosquito-control
16 activities and purchasing necessary equipment for the purposes of carrying out this
17 chapter.

18 **§173. Rules**

19 The commissioner may adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this chapter. Rules
20 adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as described in Title 5, chapter
21 375, subchapter 2-A.

22 **§174. Duties of commissioner**

23 **1. Study; plan; arrange cooperation.** The commissioner, in cooperation with
24 appropriate personnel from the Department of Health and Human Services, shall, when
25 sufficient money for such purposes is available in the fund, consider and study
26 mosquito-control problems, including mosquito surveillance; coordinate plans for
27 mosquito-control work that may be conducted by private landowners, groups,
28 organizations, municipalities, counties and mosquito-control districts formed pursuant to
29 section 176; and arrange, so far as possible, cooperation among state departments and
30 with federal agencies in conducting mosquito-control operations within the State.

31 **2. Assist with disseminating information.** The commissioner, in cooperation with
32 appropriate personnel from the Department of Health and Human Services, shall, when
33 sufficient money for such purposes is available in the fund, assist private landowners,
34 groups, organizations, municipalities, counties and mosquito-control districts formed
35 pursuant to section 176 with disseminating information to the citizens of the State about
36 ways to reduce mosquito populations, to control breeding sites and to protect themselves
37 from mosquito-borne diseases as well as other relevant information.

