

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 by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the Department of Health and Human Services To Support a Public-private Partnership To Provide Farmers' Markets with Wireless Electronic Benefit Transfer Card Readers'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1 Letters of support. Resolved: That the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the Department of Health and Human Services shall work with the Maine Federation of Farmers' Markets to issue letters of support for developing a public-private partnership working toward universal access of farmers' markets to machines required to process federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program electronic benefit transfer funds. The public-private partnership shall solicit the private funds necessary to provide all farmers' markets in the State with wireless electronic benefit transfer card readers. The partnership also shall work with banks and machine vendors to eliminate, reduce or reimburse all costs and fees associated with processing electronic benefit transfer cards from farmers' markets.'

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, replaces the bill. It requires the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the Department of Health and Human Services to work with the Maine Federation of Farmers' Markets to issue letters of support for developing a public-private partnership working toward universal access of farmers' markets to machines required to process federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program electronic benefit transfer funds. It requires the partnership to solicit private funds to provide farmers' markets with wireless electronic benefit transfer card readers. The partnership will also work with banks and machine vendors to eliminate, reduce or reimburse all costs and fees associated with processing the cards.