

CHAPTER 8-F

MAINE FOOD SOVEREIGNTY ACT

**§281. Short title**

This chapter may be known and cited as "the Maine Food Sovereignty Act." [PL 2017, c. 314, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2017, c. 314, §1 (NEW).

**§282. Definitions**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 2017, c. 314, §1 (NEW).]

**1. Direct producer-to-consumer transaction.** "Direct producer-to-consumer transaction" means a face-to-face transaction involving food or food products at the site of production of those food or food products.

[PL 2017, c. 314, §1 (NEW).]

**2. Food or food products.** "Food or food products" means food or food products that are grown, produced, processed or prepared for human consumption, including, but not limited to, vegetables, fruit, milk or milk products, meat or meat products, poultry or poultry products, fish or fish products, seafood or seafood products, cider or juice, acidified foods or canned fruits or vegetables.

[PL 2021, c. 625, §1 (AMD).]

**3. State food law.**

[PL 2021, c. 625, §2 (RP).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2017, c. 314, §1 (NEW). PL 2021, c. 625, §§1, 2 (AMD).

**§283. Statement of policy; local control and rural economic development**

It is the policy of this State to encourage food self-sufficiency for its citizens. The department shall support policies that: [PL 2017, c. 314, §1 (NEW).]

**1. Local control.** Through local control, preserve the ability of communities to produce, process, sell, purchase and consume locally produced foods;

[PL 2017, c. 314, §1 (NEW).]

**2. Small-scale farming and food production.** Ensure the preservation of family farms and traditional foodways through small-scale farming and food production;

[PL 2017, c. 314, §1 (NEW).]

**3. Improved health and well-being.** Improve the health and well-being of citizens of this State by reducing hunger and increasing food security through improved access to wholesome, nutritious foods by supporting family farms and encouraging sustainable farming and fishing;

[PL 2017, c. 314, §1 (NEW).]

**4. Self-reliance and personal responsibility.** Promote self-reliance and personal responsibility by ensuring the ability of individuals, families and other entities to prepare, process, advertise and sell foods directly to customers intended solely for consumption by the customers or their families; and

[PL 2017, c. 314, §1 (NEW).]

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