

1 H.494

2 Representatives O'Brien of Tunbridge, Cole of Hartford, Durfee of
3 Shaftsbury, Leavitt of Grand Isle, Lipsky of Stowe, Pearl of Danville, Rice of
4 Dorset, Surprenant of Barnard, and Templeman of Brownington move that the
5 bill be amended in Sec. B.1101, workforce and economic development – fiscal
6 year 2024 one-time appropriations, by striking out subdivision (g)(6) in its
7 entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (g)(6) to read as
8 follows:

9 (6) In fiscal year 2024, \$5,000,000 is appropriated from the General
10 Fund to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to fund Agriculture
11 Development Grants for Meat, Produce, and Maple processing. The Secretary
12 of Agriculture, Food and Markets shall determine that there are significant
13 interests in establishing certain parameters in the grant program before making
14 an award. Grants should be awarded to farmers, processors, and businesses,
15 which shall not include hydroponic operations. Furthermore, the Secretary
16 shall not allocate more than 25 percent of grant funds toward the maple
17 industry. Of the funds appropriated under this subdivision, an amount not to
18 exceed \$125,000.00 may be used by the Agency of Agriculture, Food and
19 Markets to support the cost of temporary employees to administer the grants.