

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1551

S.P. 635

In Senate, April 10, 2025

**An Act to Support Maine Eating and Drinking Establishments by
Allowing Vendors to Operate on the Premises of an Establishment
with a Liquor License**

Reference to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative LYMAN of Livermore Falls and
Senators: BICKFORD of Androscoggin, CYRWAY of Kennebec, FARRIN of Somerset,
Representatives: CRAY of Palmyra, MASON of Lisbon, SUPICA of Bangor.

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

Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §1051, sub-§11 is enacted to read:

11. Eating establishments. A licensed eating establishment, as defined in Title 22, section 2491, subsection 7 and referred to in this subsection as "the vendor," may operate on the premises of an establishment licensed with the bureau, referred to in this subsection as "the host establishment," under the following conditions.

A. The vendor must hold a valid license, including, but not limited to, a temporary license, issued by a health inspection program in the Department of Health and Human Services or the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The vendor may prepare and sell food to the public on the premises of the host establishment.

B. The vendor may sell alcoholic beverages on the premises of the host establishment only if those beverages are supplied exclusively by the host establishment, which must hold a valid liquor license issued by the bureau. All persons involved in the service of alcoholic beverages must meet state requirements for responsible beverage service training.

C. The vendor must comply with state laws governing food and all applicable health and safety rules enforced by the relevant licensing agencies.

D. The host establishment must maintain a written schedule of all operations involving vendors, including the name and contact information of the vendor and the dates and times of operation.

E. The vendor is responsible for collecting and remitting all applicable state and federal sales taxes on food and beverage sales conducted during its operations.

SUMMARY

Under current law, an establishment licensed with the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations is prohibited from allowing outside licensed eating establishments to prepare or sell food or alcohol on its premises.

This bill establishes conditions under which a licensed eating establishment vendor may operate within a host establishment licensed with the bureau. It permits the vendor to sell food and alcoholic beverages, as long as the alcohol is supplied exclusively by the host establishment and served in compliance with state training requirements.

The bill also requires the vendor to adhere to all relevant health and safety rules and tax reporting obligations and requires the host establishment to maintain an operational schedule.