

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 584

S. P. 199

In Senate, February 5, 1971

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Conley of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Public Intoxication.

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

R. S., T. 17, § 2001, amended. The first sentence of section 2001 of Title 17 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

Whoever ~~is found intoxicated in any street, highway or other public place, or~~ is found intoxicated in a motor vehicle while said motor vehicle is in any street, highway or other public place, shall be punished for the first offense by a fine of not more than \$20 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or by both, and upon any subsequent conviction by a fine of not more than \$60 or by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or by both, except that in any county where a county farm for the reformation of inebriates has been established, any male person who has been previously convicted of intoxication may be sentenced to such farm for a period of not less than 90 days nor more than 11 months.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment will eliminate simple public intoxication as a crime in Maine. The enactment of this law will help relieve law enforcement officers and the judiciary of a considerable amount of work and expense in connection with the arrest, conviction and commitment of inebriates. It will have the societal benefit of emphasizing the health and rehabilitation of alcoholism and the recognition of alcoholism as fundamentally a disease.