

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2163

S. P. 753

In Senate, January 2, 1974

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Cox of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FOUR

**AN ACT Exempting Certain Sales through Coin-operated Vending
Machines from the Sales Tax.**

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 36, § 1760, sub-§ 34, additional. Section 1760 of Title 36 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended by adding a new subsection 34 to read as follows:

34. Coin-operated vending machines. Sales of tangible personal property when sold through a coin-operated vending machine for a total consideration of 15¢ or less. This exemption only applies to retailers more than 50% of whose gross receipts from the retail sale of tangible personal property are derived from sales through vending machines.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 36, § 1811, amended. The last paragraph of section 1811 of Title 36 of the Revised Statutes is repealed as follows:

~~No tax shall be imposed upon such property sold at retail for 10¢ or less, provided the retailer is primarily engaged in making such sales and keeps records satisfactory to the State Tax Assessor.~~

FISCAL NOTE

The passage of this bill would result in the loss of revenue to the State of Maine of \$45,000 per year.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Automatic retailers, unlike their counterparts who sell the same products manually, do not have the ability to collect the sales tax with each sale as is required by law. This is due to mechanical limitations inherent in the equipment in that the machine cannot accept pennies and pricing must, therefore, be made at minimum increments of a nickel. The existing exemption which this bill repeals is no longer adequate due to inflation and increased costs to the retailer.