MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2440

S. P. 872 In Senate, January 24, 1974 Referred to the Committee on Liquor Control. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary Presented by Senator MacLeod of Penobscot, BY REQUEST.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR

AN ACT Relating to Special Agency Stores and Store Hours Under the Liquor Laws.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 28, § 153, repealed and replaced. Section 153 of Title 28 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 153. Special stores

The bureau shall have authority to license and regulate, in cities and towns which have voted in favor of the operation of state stores under local option provisions and where there is no state store, retailers as special agency stores on an annual, seasonal or temporary basis for the purposes of selling liquor in sealed bottles, containers or original packages for consumption off the premises. The liquor shall be sold by the bureau to the special agency stores pursuant to section 204.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 28, § 154, amended. Section 154 of Title 28 of the Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

§ 154. Business hours

State stores shall not be open on Sundays, court holidays or on the day of the holding of a general election or state-wide primary or between the hours of & p.m. 10 p.m. and 9 a.m. except during the time when eastern daylight time is in effect, state liquor stores may be opened at & a.m., standard time, and except on Saturdays when, if open, they may be kept open until 10 p.m. and the commission Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages is authorized to regulate

the opening and closing hours of each store within the provisions of this Title.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Pursuant to Management and Cost Survey Recommendations 89 and 91, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages, this Act allows for the creation of special agency stores and more flexible store hours.

The special agency stores would provide service to 200 cities and towns that have voted to have a liquor store and in which it is not feasible for the Bureau to establish same. Net increases in revenue to the State in excess of \$1,000,000 will be realized by the end of 10 years for an eventual total of 50 agency stores.

More flexible store hours are intended to accommodate changed shopping patterns and allow stores to make their hours coincide with those of other neighboring stores.

These recommendations were supported by the Governor in his Special Message to the Special Session of the 106th Legislature on January 10, 1974.