

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2280

H. P. 2132

House of Representatives, March 1, 1976

Approved for Introduction by a Majority of the Committee on Reference of Bills pursuant to Joint Order S. P. 635, as amended. Read twice under Suspension of Rules and passed to be engrossed without reference to Committee. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Talbot of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SIX

**AN ACT to Repeal the Prohibition in the Criminal Statutes against Marathon
Dances and Walkathons.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment, unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, marathon dances and walkathons are a useful method of raising funds for charitable purposes; and

Whereas, chapter 499 of the Public Laws of 1975, the Maine Criminal Code, which was to become effective on March 1, 1976, repealed a statutory prohibition against marathon dances and walkathons; and

Whereas, several charitable organizations, in reliance upon the original effective date of the criminal code, planned marathon dances within the month of March in order to raise funds for charity; and

Whereas, the Legislature, by chapter 649 enacted during this special session, delayed the effective date of the criminal code; and

Whereas, these organizations have expended time and funds and made commitments which now cannot be easily reversed; and

Whereas, in order to avoid unnecessarily harmful effects of this delay on these charitable organizations, the repeal of the statutory prohibition against dance marathons and walkathons must not be delayed beyond March 1st; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

17 MRSA § 3959 is repealed.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect March 1, 1976.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the Emergency preamble.