MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 369

H. P. 285

Referred to the Committee on Liquor Control. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Nadeau of Sanford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Allow the Purchase of Liquor at a Reduced Price in the Town of Sanford.

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

Sec. 1. 28 MRSA § 451, 1st ¶, last sentence, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 646, is further amended to read:

Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, the commission, with the approval of the Commissioner of Finance and Administration, may reduce the price of liquor in one store 2 stores, and licenses permitted to purchase liquor at a discount under section 204 may purchase liquor for resale from that store at the same price they are permitted to purchase liquor for resale from any state store which does not offer a retail discount.

Sec. 2. 28 MRSA § 451, 1st ¶, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 646, is further amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

The reduced price shall not apply to liquor purchased for resale.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to allow the purchase of liquor in the Town of Sanford at the reduced price now in effect at the Kittery liquor store.

The Town of Sanford is approximately 13 miles from Rochester, New Hampshire. The close distance facilitates the fact that many residents of Sanford and of York County purchase their liquor in the State of New Hampshire because of its reduced price. While in New Hampshire, Maine residents also buy many other goods and commodities which in turn hurts local Maine merchants and eliminates tax dollars which should be going to the State of Maine.

The passage of this bill would remove the incentive given to Sanford and York County residents to go to the State of New Hampshire. Once the incentive is removed, our local merchants and the State of Maine may profit from the purchasing dollars of Maine residents and visitors, who are currently spending their money in the State of New Hampshire.