

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 585**

S. P. 188

In Senate, February 23, 1977

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

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Snowe of Androscoggin.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT Relating to the Fair Trade Act.**

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

to **MRSA c. 203**, as amended, is repealed.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to make Maine law consistent with federal laws. Effective March 11, 1976, the federal laws permitting states to enact fair trade laws such as Title 10, chapter 203, were repealed. The federal laws were repealed because fair trade laws eliminate price competition between retailers and because the present economy calls for a public policy of low prices that result from competition in order to combat inflation. The repeal of the federal act permits federal law enforcement agencies to enforce federal antitrust laws against Mainers who enter into contracts fixing resale prices of goods which affect or are in interstate commerce, but because of the inconsistency between Maine law and federal law, Maine law enforcement agencies cannot act to stop the same unlawful conduct.