

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
108TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

(Filing No. H-596)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 731, L.D. 857, Bill, "AN ACT to Raise the Tax on Beer, Wine and other Alcoholic Beverages to Provide Funds for the Operation of Alcoholic Treatment Facilities, the Establishment of Education and Treatment Programs for Alcohol Abusers Convicted of Operating under the Influence and other Minor Crimes and the Establishment of a Program of Substance Abuse."

Amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 28 MRSA §451, 1st ¶, 1st sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1967, c.544, §65, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

All spirits and wines, except table wines, shall be sold by the commission at a price to be determined by the commission which will produce a state liquor tax of not less than 75% based on the less carload cost F.O.B., State Liquor Commission warehouse. There shall also be levied and imposed, from November 1, 1978 to December 31, 1979, on all spirits and wines, except table wines, sold by the commission, a surtax of 3% of the price determined by the commission.

Sec. 2. 28 MRSA §452, 1st ¶, last sentence is amended to read:
A wholesale licensee who imports malt liquor shall pay an excise tax of 25¢ per gallon, except that from November 1, 1978 to December 31, 1979, the rate shall be 29¢ per gallon, and at a like rate for any multiple or fraction thereof.

Sec. 3. 28 MRSA §452, 2nd ¶, 1st sentence, as enacted by PL 1969, c.360, §15, is amended to read:

There shall be levied and imposed an excise tax of 30¢ per gallon, except that from November 1, 1978 to December 31, 1979, the rate shall be 33¢ per gallon, or fraction or multiple thereof, on all table wine containing 14% or less alcohol by volume imported into this State; except the excise tax shall be 20¢ per gallon, except that from November 1, 1978 to December 31, 1979, the rate shall be 23¢ per gallon, or fraction or multiple thereof on all still wine containing 14% or less alcohol by volume which is manufactured or bottled in this State; and an excise tax of \$1 per gallon, except that from November 1, 1978 to December 31, 1979, the rate shall be \$1.05 per gallon, or multiple or fraction thereof on all sparkling wines manufactured in or imported into this State.

Sec. 4. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Human Services the sum of \$4,456,989 for the biennium to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

| | <u>1977-78</u> | <u>1978-79</u> |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF | | |
| Office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention | | |
| Personal Services | (6) \$ 40,488 | (6) \$ 96,400 |
| Capital | 18,000 | -- |
| All Other | <u>1,712,101</u> | <u>2,590,000</u> |
| Total | \$1,770,589 | \$2,686,400 |

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to place a time limit on the alcohol tax increases of this bill so that the effectiveness of the expanded Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention Program can be evaluated.

Reported by the Majority of the Committee on Taxation.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
6/14/77

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