

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1364

H. P. 1109

House of Representatives, March 29, 1977

On motion of Ms. Clark of Freeport, referred to Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Sprowl of Hope.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Provide for Municipal Licensing of Public Dancing and to
Authorize Suspension or Revocation of Municipal Licenses for
Exhibitions and Amusements.**

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

Sec. 1. 8 MRSA § 161, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 78, §§ 1, 2 and 3, is further amended by inserting after the first paragraph a new paragraph to read:

No public dance shall be held in any municipality without a license from the municipal officers of that municipality for the conduct of that dance. The municipal officers of a municipality may grant a license for the conduct of public dancing upon receipt of a fee set by those officers which shall cover the reasonable costs to the municipality of regulating that public dancing. The license so issued may authorize the conduct of one or more public dances during a period not to exceed one year from the date of issue of the license. The officers of a municipality which have issued a dance permit may, after a public hearing preceded by notice to interested parties, suspend or revoke any public dancing permit issued by the municipality on the grounds that the dancing so licensed constitutes a detriment to the municipal health, safety or welfare. No dance conducted by and for students in either public, private or state-owned school buildings or municipally-owned buildings shall require a municipal permit under this paragraph.

Sec. 2. 8 MRSA § 502, 1st ¶, as last amended by PL 1971, c. 622, § 141-B, is further amended by adding after the 3rd sentence the following 2 new sentences to read:

The municipal officers of a town which have granted a license for any of these exhibitions or performances may, after public hearing preceded by notice to interested parties, suspend or revoke that license on the grounds that the exhibition or performance so licensed constitutes a detriment to the municipal health, safety or welfare. No municipal license for an exhibition or performance shall be valid for a period of more than one year from the date of issue of the license.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill establishes municipal licensing of public dancing and provides for the revocation of municipal licenses for exhibitions and amusements.