

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)  
New Draft of H. P. 425, L. D. 520

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1685

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H. P. 1457

House of Representatives, April 25, 1977

Reported by Mr. Peakes from the Committee on Business Legislation and printed under Joint Rules No. 2.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT to Provide Fees for Consumer Education Materials.**

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

Whereas, the Bureau of Consumer Protection's program of consumer education is supported by fees charged the creditors it regulates; and

Whereas, the information provided to consumers in this State by the Down Easter's Pocket Credit Guide has proven to be of value; and

Whereas, the continued availability of the Down Easter's Pocket Credit Guide to the people of this State is of great importance; and

Whereas, in order to continue to make these guides available and to support this and future programs of consumer education of the bureau, it is necessary to provide sufficient revenue to the bureau; 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:

Sec. 1. 9-A MRSA § 6-203, sub-§ 4-A is enacted to read:

4-A. The bureau may charge fees to nonresident individuals and resident or nonresident organizations wishing to purchase educational materials produced and distributed by the bureau.

**Sec. 2. Transitional provision.** Any fees collected from nonresident individuals and organizations prior to the effective date of this Act shall be allocated to the account of the Bureau of Consumer Protection for its use in consumer education programs.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

### STATEMENT OF FACT

This new draft provides an emergency clause so that the consumer education program of the Bureau of Consumer Protection can continue. Maine resident individuals will continue to receive these materials free. However, resident organizations who order materials in bulk quantities for distribution and nonresident individuals and organizations may be charged a fee. In addition, the new draft allocates to the bureau funds already received from nonresident individuals.