

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LD 1944

(Filing No. H-952)

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ^D to H.P. 1887, L.D. 1944, Bill, "AN ACT to Permit Sale of Alcoholic Beverages for On-premise Consumption at 18 Years of Age."

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of the last sentence.

Further amend the Bill by inserting after Section 3 a new section to read:

'Sec. 4. 28 MRSA §1001, 2nd ¶, as enacted by PL 1967, c.352, §2, is amended to read:

~~if-a-minor~~ If a person under the age of 20 years is charged with illegal transportation under this section he may not be charged with illegal possession.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of sections 5, 6 and 7 and inserting in their place the following:

'Sec. 5. 28 MRSA §1060, 1st sentence, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 23, §9, is further amended to read:

Any resident of the State or nonresident in the State ~~20~~ 18 years of age or over may make application to the Liquor Commission for an adult identification card upon a form provided by the commission.

Sec. 6. Statutory referendum procedure; form of question; effective date. This Act shall take effect 90 days after adjournment of the Legislature only for the purpose of presenting it to the legal voters of the State of Maine at the next general election in the month of November following passage of this Act. The city aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

"Shall 'An Act to Permit Sale of Alcoholic Beverages for On-premise Consumption at 18 Years of Age,' passed by the second regular session of the 108th Legislature, become law?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below the words "Yes" or "No." The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes are in favor of the Act, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay, and the Act shall become effective 30 days after the date of the proclamation.

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purpose of the referendum.

Further amend the Bill by renumbering the sections to read consecutively.

Statement of Fact

This amendment permits the State Liquor Commission to continue to use only one adult identification card. Each card shows the age of the holder and allows identification of card holders not old enough to purchase liquor to take off the premises. Equipment and operations to issue 2 separate identification cards would be costly. This amendment also clarifies the definition of "minor" in the bill.

This amendment further provides for a statutory referendum to be held on the question of whether or not sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premise consumption at 18 years of age should be permitted.

The referendum will be held at the regular 1978 election.

Reported by Report "C" of the Committee on Liquor Control.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

1/13/78

(Filing No. H-952)