

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-573)
109TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 66, L.D. 74, Bill,
"AN ACT to Permit Store Owners to Limit the Hours During which
they will Accept Returnable Beverage Containers and to Permit
them to Limit the Number of Containers they will Accept from
a Single Person or Group at One Time."

Amend the Bill by striking out all of the title and
inserting in its place the following:

Store Owners
'AN ACT to Permit / to Limit the Number of Containers
they will Accept from a Single Person or Group at One Time.'

Further amend the Bill by inserting before the enacting
clause the following:

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

Whereas, the current law requiring dealers to accept an
unlimited number of returnable beverage containers from any
one person creates severe problems for many store owners with
respect to cash flow, storage space and personnel; and

Whereas, the current law imposes an especially unfair
burden on smaller dealers who are, in the aforementioned
respects, less able to handle unlimited numbers of returnables; and

Whereas, this burden may pose an immediate threat to the
livelihood of some smaller dealers; 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,'

Further amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'32 MRSA §1866, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. Limitation or number of returnables accepted. A dealer may limit the total number of beverage containers which he will accept from any one consumer or other person in any one business day to 240 containers, or any other number greater than 240.

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

Statement of Fact

This amendment makes the bill an emergency bill, deletes the provision concerning the limitation of hours during which returnable bottles may be redeemed, and changes the maximum number of bottles the storeowner must accept to 240.