

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 848

S. P. 289

In Senate, March 1, 1979

Referred to the Committee on State Government. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

Presented by Senator Danton of York.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Repeal Mandatory Public Meetings by the State Liquor Commission.

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

28 MRSA § 54, sub-§ 3, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 741, § 4, is amended to read:

3. Public meetings. The commission ~~shall~~ **may** hold public meetings each year at various locations within the State for the purpose of outlining operations under the liquor laws, receiving suggestions thereto and disseminating information to the public.

STATEMENT OF FACT

These public meetings are expensive, involve a great deal of time and travel and are poorly attended.

The last 8 meetings have drawn a total of 46 persons. Two of these meetings drew no one.

The legislation will not prohibit the commission from holding public meetings, but does remove the obligation of holding needless hearings.

There are some hearings that would be mandatory by the Administrative Procedure Act and those, of course, would still be held.