

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1024

H. P. 826

House of Representatives, March 5, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Marshall of Millinocket.

Cosponsors: Mr. Wyman of Pittsfield and Mr. Gray of Rockland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT Prohibiting any Person from Selling or Offering for Sale or Exchange to a Minor any Product which Seeks to Imitate an Alcoholic Beverage by Looks, Taste and Smell.**

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

28 MRSA § 1058-A is enacted to read:

**§ 1058-A. Sale of imitation alcoholic beverages**

No person, firm or corporation shall sell or offer for sale or exchange to any minor any product containing less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1% alcohol by volume which seeks to imitate by appearance, taste and smell an alcoholic beverage or which is designed to carry the impression to the purchaser that the beverage has an alcoholic content, including, but not limited to, products bearing the brand names "Near Beer," "Brew" or "Champaigne-O."

The following products shall be excluded from the prohibitions of this section:

1. Soft drinks. Products commonly known as "root beer," "ginger ale," "cider" and all soft drinks;
2. Other beverages. Beverages containing more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1% alcohol by volume; and

**3. Food flavorings. Articles such as vanilla extract, lemon extract and other food flavorings commonly used for cooking and flavoring.**

**Any person violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a Class E crime.**

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to prohibit the sale to minors of products which imitate alcoholic beverages by looks, taste and smell.