

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1895

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-625)
110TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1918, L.D. 1895, Bill,
"AN ACT to Equalize the Price of Liquor throughout the
State."

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

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Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §2601, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

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4. Review of liquor price level. The level of the
consumers' tax to be levied in accordance with Title 28,
section 451 shall be reviewed by January 31, 1983.

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Sec. 2. 1 MRSA §2602, as last amended by PL 1981, c.
449, §2, is further amended by adding at the end a new sen-
tence to read:

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The legislative committee having jurisdiction over the stat-
utory provisions listed in section 2601, subsection 4, shall
prepare and submit its report by January 31, 1983.

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Sec. 3. 28 MRSA §451, first ¶, last sentence, as
amended by PL 1975, c. 646, is repealed.

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Sec. 4. 28 MRSA §451, last ¶, as enacted by PL 1979,
c. 307, is repealed.

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Sec. 5 Statutory referendum procedure; submission at
general election; form of question; effective date. This
Act shall be submitted 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:

1 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1918, L.D. 1895

2 "Shall the price of liquor sold at state and agency
3 liquor stores be equalized throughout the State?"

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

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

20 FISCAL NOTE

21 The Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages estimates that if
22 this measure becomes law, there will be a loss to the Gen-
23 eral Fund of \$2,500,000 in the next fiscal year.

24 Passage of this bill by the Legislature would also
25 result in the costs of holding a statewide referendum.

26 STATEMENT OF FACT

27 This amendment provides for a statutory referendum on
28 the issue of equalization of liquor prices state wide. If
29 approved by the voters this bill will:

30 1. Repeal the provisions in the present law allowing
31 operation of a single discount store; and

32 2. Provide for review by the 111th Legislature of the
33 price level of liquor determined in accordance with the
34 Revised Statutes, Title 28, section 451.

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