

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 (New Draft of S.P. 183, L.D. 609)
2 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
3

4 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
5

6 Legislative Document

No. 1529

7
8 S.P. 512

In Senate, April 28, 1983

9 Reported by the Minority Report from the Committee on Business
10 Legislation and printed under Joint Rule 2.

11 Original bill presented by Senator Clark of Cumberland. Cosponsored by
Representative Murray of Bangor.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

12
13 STATE OF MAINE
14

15 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
16 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
17

18 AN ACT to Extend Maine's Returnable
19 Deposit Law.
20

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

23 Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1862, sub-§1, as enacted by
24 PL 1975, c. 739, §16, is amended to read:

25 1. Beverage. "Beverage" means beer, ale or other
26 drink produced by fermenting malt, soda water or
27 other nonalcoholic carbonated drink in liquid form
28 and intended for human consumption or fruit, imita-
29 tion fruit or tea drink in liquid form in 12 fluid
30 ounce metal beverage containers and intended for
31 human consumption.

32 Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §1862, sub-§2, as enacted by
33 PL 1975, c. 739, §16, is amended to read:

1 2. Beverage container. "Beverage container"
2 means a glass, metal or plastic bottle, can, jar or
3 other container which has been sealed by a manufac-
4 turer and which, at the time of sale, contains one
5 gallon or less of a beverage. With respect to a
6 fruit, imitation fruit or tea drink, "beverage con-
7 tainer" means only a 12 fluid ounce metal beverage
8 container.

9 STATEMENT OF FACT

10 The original bill extended coverage of the
11 returnable deposit law to a wide variety of beverages
12 in different types of containers. This new draft
13 significantly reduces the extent of the change to
14 encompass only fruit, imitation fruit and tea drinks
15 in 12 fluid ounce metal containers. As a result,
16 vegetable drinks and a host of other products, which
17 are outside the distribution scheme of currently
18 included beverages, are excluded.

19 This new draft is designed to extend coverage to
20 beverage containers which are similar in every
21 respect to containers already covered by the law,
22 except they do not contain beer or a carbonated bev-
23 erage. These containers are the same size, approxi-
24 mately the same price and are distributed in the same
25 manner as soft drinks. As a result, they are a
26 source of the same sorts of problems for litter and
27 solid waste as soft drink cans.

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