

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1808

H.P. 1380

House of Representatives, November 18, 1983

Reference to the Committee on Business Legislation suggested and ordered printed.

Presented by Representative Higgins of Scarborough.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend Certain Provisions
of the Sunday Closing Law.

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

Whereas, the recently enacted provision allowing retail establishments to remain open on certain Sundays is now in effect; and

Whereas, the holiday season is imminent; and

Whereas, unless this legislation is enacted as an emergency, many Maine citizens will be deprived of the observance of important holidays; 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

1 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-
2 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
3 therefore,

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

6 17 MRSA §3204, first ¶, as amended by PL 1983, c.
7 156, is further amended to read:

8 No person, firm or corporation may, on the Lord's
9 Day Sunday, except between the hours of noon and 5-00
10 5 p.m. on those Sundays falling between Thanksgiving
11 Day and Christmas Day; Memorial Day, the last Monday
12 in May, but if the United States Government desig-
13 nates May 30th as the date for observance of Memorial
14 Day or in 1985, whichever occurs first in time, the
15 30th of May; July 4th; Labor Day, the first Monday of
16 September; Veterans Day, November 11th; Christmas
17 Day, December 25th; and Thanksgiving Day as pre-
18 etained by the Governor, the last Thursday in Novem-
19 ber, keep open a place of business to the public,
20 except for works of necessity, emergency or charity.
21 When any one of the holidays named in this paragraph,
22 other than Sundays, falls on a Sunday, the Monday
23 following shall be observed as a holiday, so that the
24 prohibition of this paragraph shall apply to both the
25 Sunday and the Monday following.

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

29 STATEMENT OF FACT

30 The purpose of this bill is to amend the Sunday
31 closing law by designating Christmas Day as December
32 25th, by designating Thanksgiving as the last Thurs-
33 day in November and by causing the Monday following
34 any of the named holidays which may fall on a Sunday
35 to be observed as a holiday for purposes of the law.

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