

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 (New Draft of H.P. 535, L.D. 754)
2 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
3

4 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
5

6 Legislative Document

No. 1586

7
8 H.P. 1093

House of Representatives, May 24, 1985

9 Reported by Representative Murphy from the Committee on Legal
10 Affairs and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill presented by
11 Representative Boutilier of Lewiston. Cosponsored by Representative
Brannigan of Portland, Representative Melendy of Rockland and
Representative Reeves of Pittston.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

12
13 STATE OF MAINE
14

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

18 AN ACT Concerning Retail Sales of Beer and
19 Wine.
20

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

23 28 M RSA §751, last ¶, as amended by PL 1975, c.
24 741, §23, is further amended to read:

25 All retail store licensees must have and maintain
26 an adequate stock of groceries in no case less than
27 \$1,000 wholesale value or a stock of merchandise rea-
28 sonably compatible with a stock of malt liquor or ta-
29 ble wine in no case less than \$1,000 wholesale value,
30 or a combination of both in no case less than \$1,000
31 wholesale value. No merchandise shall be considered
32 to be reasonably compatible with a stock of malt li-
33 quor or table wine, for the purpose of licensing a
34 retail store, which consists of gasoline and oil;
35 used or new cars, parts or accessories; or such other
36 items of stock that may be equally incompatible in

1 nature. Compatible merchandise shall consist exclu-
2 sively of tobacco products, newspapers, greeting
3 cards and, paper products and a stock of foodstuffs
4 and other consumable products used on the premises in
5 the preparation of food for consumption on or off the
6 premises. Compatible merchandise shall be displayed
7 in the general sales area of the licensee, except
8 that foodstuffs and other consumable products used in
9 the preparation of food are not required to be dis-
10 played if they are stored elsewhere on the premises.

11 STATEMENT OF FACT

12 The purpose of this new draft is to provide that
13 certain stocks of foodstuffs and consumable products
14 may be included in a retailer's stock as "compatible
15 merchandise" for the purpose of obtaining a retail
16 malt liquor or table wine license. This will affect
17 only those retailers that do not have a stock of gro-
18 ceries, but are required to maintain a stock worth
19 \$1,000 in compatible merchandise. This will elimi-
20 nate the practice of stocking \$1,000 worth of compati-
21 ble merchandise which is unrelated to the business
22 and is never sold. The stock of foodstuffs must be
23 on the premises but need not be displayed in the gen-
24 eral sales area as is required of all other compati-
25 ble merchandise.

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