

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 204

H.P. 163 House of Representatives, February 3, 1987  
Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested  
and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk  
Presented by Representative ROLDE of York.  
Cosponsored by Representative HILLOCK of Gorham.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Prohibit Vending Machine Sales of  
Cigarettes.

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

22 MRSA c. 265-B is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 265-B

VENDING MACHINE SALES OF CIGARETTES

§1628. Vending machine sales of cigarettes prohib-  
ited

1. Definition. For purposes of this chapter  
"vending machine" means any automated, self-service

1 device which, upon insertion of money, tokens or any  
2 other form of payment, dispenses cigarettes.

3 2. Violation. It is unlawful for any person,  
4 firm or corporation to distribute or sell cigarettes  
5 by the use of a vending machine or to install or  
6 maintain a vending machine with the intent to make  
7 such sales. Any person, firm or corporation which  
8 performs such an act commits a civil violation for  
9 which a forfeiture of not less than \$100 nor more  
10 than \$500 may be adjudged.

11 This section shall not apply to any vending ma-  
12 chine located in an area where minors are not allowed  
13 by law or by policy of the owner of the premises.

14 STATEMENT OF FACT

15 The Director of the National Institute on Drug  
16 Abuse has concluded that the majority of the 350,000  
17 Americans who die each year from cigarette smoking  
18 "became addicted to nicotine as adolescents before  
19 the age of legal consent." A significant number of  
20 children under the legal age to purchase cigarettes  
21 do so through vending machines. The purpose of this  
22 bill is to prohibit the sale of cigarettes through  
23 vending machines, in order to eliminate the possibil-  
24 ity of minors purchasing cigarettes which they are  
25 prohibited by law from purchasing.

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