

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 744

H.P. 516

House of Representatives, February 21, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative SMALL of Bath.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

An Act to Enable Retail Stores to Bottle and Sell Water on the Premises.



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

22 MRSA §2601, sub-§8, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 751, §4, is amended to read:

8. Public water system. "Public water system" means any publicly or ~~privately-owned~~ privately owned system of pipes, structures and facilities through which water is obtained for or sold, furnished or distributed to the public for human consumption, if such system has at least 15 service connections, regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily at least 30 days out of the year or bottles water for sale. Any publicly or ~~privately-owned~~ privately owned system that only stores and distributes water, without treating or collecting it; obtains all its water from, but is not owned or operated by, a public water system; and does not sell water or bottled water to any person, is not a "public water system." A retail store that purifies and bottles water from a "public water system" and sells the water on the premises is not a "public water system." The term "public water system" ~~shall include~~ includes any collection, treatment, storage or distribution pipes, structures or facilities under the control of the supplier of water and used primarily in connection with such system, and any collection or pretreatment storage facilities not under such control ~~which that~~ are used primarily in connection with such system. The system ~~shall~~ does not include the portion of service pipe owned and maintained by a customer of the public water system.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Public water systems are regulated by the Department of Human Services, and bottling regulations require space and equipment that make bottling and selling water extremely difficult for small retail stores. This bill excludes retail stores from the definition of "public water system" if the retail stores bottle water from an existing "public water system," such as a municipal water supply, and sell it on the premises. Such stores are thereby placed outside the jurisdiction of "public water system" regulations.