

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
115TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 909, L.D. 1306, Bill, "An Act to Reduce Littering"

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 2 and 3 and inserting in their place the following:

'Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §2264, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Helium-filled balloons. Except as provided in this subsection, by intentionally releasing one or more helium-filled balloons outdoors. A person is not in violation of this subsection if that person intentionally releases a helium-filled balloon that carries scientific instrumentation or that is used for meteorological observation. A person violating this subsection is subject to the penalties set forth under section 2264-A, subsection 1.

FISCAL NOTE

This bill imposes a penalty for the release of one or more helium-filled balloons. The additional work load and administrative costs associated with a minimal number of additional cases filed in District Court as a result of this violation will be absorbed within the budgeted resources of the Judicial Department. There will also be a minor increase in General Fund revenue from the collection of additional fines.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment makes the intentional outdoor release of any

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2 helium-filled balloon a civil violation, subject to a fine of not
less than \$25 for the first violation and not less than \$100 for
4 subsequent violations. Helium-filled balloons released for
scientific or meteorological purposes are exempt from the
6 prohibition. The amendment strikes provisions in the bill that
established one penalty for the intentional release of 10 to 100
8 balloons and another penalty for the release of more than 100
balloons.

Reported by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
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(5/7/91)

(Filing No. H-255)
