

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

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Legislative Document

No. 1775

H.P. 1217

House of Representatives, May 3, 1991

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.  
Reference to the Committee on Business Legislation suggested and ordered printed.

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative TRACY of Rome.

Cosponsored by Representative GRAHAM of Houlton, Representative SHELTRA of Biddeford and Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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**An Act to Prescribe the Duties and Liabilities of Ice-skating Rink  
Operators and Persons Who Use Ice-skating Rinks.**

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(AFTER DEADLINE)



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

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4 8 MRSA c. 24 is enacted to read:

6 CHAPTER 24

8 ICE-SKATING SAFETY

10 §621. Short title

12 This chapter is known and may be cited as the "Ice-skating Safety Act."

14 §622. Definitions

16 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

18 1. Ice-skating rink. "Ice-skating rink" means a building, facility or premises that provides an area used for ice-skating.

22 2. Operator. "Operator" means a person or entity who owns or controls or who has operational responsibility for an ice-skating rink. An "operator" may include the State or a political subdivision of the State.

26 3. Skater. "Skater" means a person in an ice-skating rink for the purpose of skating.

30 §623. Duties of operators

32 An operator shall:

34 1. Post duties. Post in conspicuous places at the ice-skating rink the duties of skaters and inherent dangers of skaters as provided in sections 624 and 625;

38 2. Maintain equipment. Maintain ice-skating equipment and ice-skating surfaces in a reasonably safe condition; and

40 3. Stability and legibility of notices. Maintain the stability and legibility of all required signs, symbols and posted notices.

44 §624. Duties and conduct of skaters

46 1. Ability. Each skater shall know the range of that skater's ability to travel while on ice skates and shall skate within the limits of that ability.

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2. Control. Each skater shall maintain control of the skater's speed and course at all times when skating and be alert and observant as to avoid other skaters, spectators and objects. A skater attempting to overtake other skaters shall do so in a manner that avoids collision with structures and other skaters in that skater's field of vision.

**§625. Inherent dangers**

Insofar as the dangers inherent in ice-skating are obvious, by participating in ice-skating, a person accepts those dangers. Those dangers include, but are not limited to, injuries that result from collisions with other skaters, injuries that result from falls and injuries that involve objects or artificial structures properly within the intended travel of the skater that are not otherwise attributable to a breach of the operator's common law duties.

**§626. Violation; liability**

A skater or operator who violates this chapter is liable to an injured person in a civil action for damages resulting from the violation.

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

This bill prescribes the duties and liabilities of ice-skating rink operators and persons who use ice-skating rinks. The bill also provides for the acceptance of certain risks by persons who utilize ice-skating rinks.