

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1992

Legislative Document

No. 2207

S.P. 863

In Senate, January 23, 1992

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.
Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

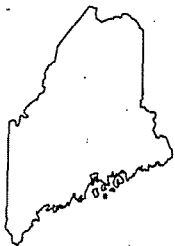
JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator SUMMERS of Cumberland
Cosponsored by Representative PENDLETON of Scarborough, Representative
PENDEXTER of Scarborough and Senator MILLS of Oxford.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act Regarding Retail Liquor Sales.



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

2 Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §401-A, sub-§4-A is enacted to read:

4 4-A. Warehouses. The commission shall operate one or more
6 warehouses for the storage of spirits prior to delivery to state
and agency liquor stores.

8 Sec. 2. 28-A MRSA §455, as amended by PL 1991, c. 376, §51,
10 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

12 §455. Purchase and sale of liquor by agency liquor stores

14 1. Purchase. Agency liquor stores shall buy their liquor
16 from the commission under section 606.

18 2. Sale. An agency liquor store shall sell liquor at a
20 price equal to or greater than the price for retail sales in the
state liquor stores established by the commission pursuant to
chapters 65 and 67.

22 Sec. 3. 28-A MRSA §606, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1991, c. 227,
24 §1 and c. 376, §52, is repealed and the following enacted in its
place:

26 1. Licensee purchases of spirits. A licensee, except an
28 agency liquor store, may purchase spirits from the commission or
from an agency liquor store. Agency liquor stores shall purchase
spirits from the commission.

30 Sec. 4. 28-A MRSA §606, sub-§1-A, as enacted by PL 1991, c.
32 227, §2, is repealed.

34 Sec. 5. Report. The Department of Public Safety, Bureau of
36 Liquor Enforcement, shall report to the Joint Standing Committee
on Legal Affairs by January 1, 1993 on the need for additional
38 state liquor enforcement officers to enforce the laws regarding
retail liquor sales.

40 Sec. 6. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated
42 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1992-93

44 PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF

46 Liquor Enforcement

48 Positions

(3.0)

2 Personal Services \$93,321
All Other 25,299
4 Capital Expenditures 54,831

6 Provides funds for 3 Liquor Enforcement
Officer I positions and related equipment,
8 clothing, training and operating expenses,
beginning July 1, 1992.

10 **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**
12 **TOTAL** \$173,451

14 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

16 The bill permits agency liquor stores to sell spirits for a
price higher than the price established for state liquor stores.
18 The bill also permits restaurants, bars and other licensees to
purchase spirits at agency liquor stores for the same price as
20 other store customers pay. Current law requires all licensees to
purchase spirits from the commission, except that restaurants
22 more than 15 miles from a state liquor store may purchase spirits
at an agency liquor store if they pay an extra 8% markup. The
24 bill requires the State to operate warehouses for the storage and
delivery of spirits in the State.

26 Finally, the bill authorizes the Bureau of Liquor
28 Enforcement to hire 3 additional liquor enforcement officers to
help oversee the recent changes in the liquor sales system and
30 requires the bureau to report to the Legislature on the need for
additional liquor enforcement officers.