

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

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Legislative Document

No. 1020

H.P. 753

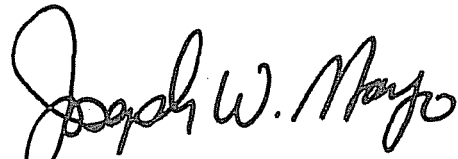
House of Representatives, March 25, 1993

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**An Act to Meet the Alcohol Abuse Treatment Needs of Maine Citizens.**

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Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative DAGGETT of Augusta.  
Cosponsored by Senator BUSTIN of Kennebec and  
Representatives: CLEMENT of Clinton, HOGLUND of Portland, MORRISON of Bangor,  
Senator: CONLEY of Cumberland.

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

4 Sec. 1. 28-A MRS §1701, as repealed by PL 1989, c. 934, Pt.  
C, §3, is reenacted to read:

6 **§1701. Findings and intent**

8 **1. Findings.** The Legislature finds that:

10 A. Alcoholism is an increasingly costly burden on the  
personal lives and pocketbooks of Maine citizens;

12 B. A small minority of the population consumes the vast  
14 majority of liquor sold;

16 C. The public is unfairly burdened with the expense of  
18 preventing alcoholism and of caring for alcoholics; and

20 D. The growing cost of prevention and treatment should be  
22 borne by those persons who deliberately incur the risk of  
contracting this disease.

24 **2. Intent.** Accordingly, the intent of this chapter is to  
26 ensure that programs for alcoholism prevention, education,  
treatment and research are adequately supported by shifting the  
28 financial burden of preventing and treating alcoholism to those  
who choose to drink.

30 Sec. 2. 28-A MRS §1702-A is enacted to read:

32 **§1702-A. Alcoholism Prevention, Education, Treatment and**  
**Research Fund**

34 **1. Establishment.** There is established a nonlapsing fund  
36 known as the Alcoholism Prevention, Education, Treatment and  
Research Fund, referred to in this section as the "fund," to  
38 carry out the purposes of this chapter.

40 **2. Revenues.** All premiums collected under section 1703 and  
42 money received from any other source must be deposited in the  
fund.

44 **3. Allocations; expenditures.** The funds must be allocated  
46 to the Office of Substance Abuse for expenditure in consultation  
with the Department of Education, Bureau of Instruction, Division  
48 of Alcohol and Drug Education Services; the Department of  
Corrections; the Department of Mental Health and Mental  
50 Retardation; the Department of Human Services; and the Department  
of Public Safety.

2 4. Reports. The State Controller shall maintain records  
3 and prepare reports in accordance with Title 5, chapter 143.

4 **Sec. 3. 28-A MRSA §1703, sub-§3,** as amended by PL 1991, c.  
5 591, Pt. VV, §10, is further amended to read:

6  
7 **3. Amount of premium.** The premium imposed by subsections 1  
8 and 2 is:

9  
10 A. ~~Tea~~ Twenty cents per gallon on all malt beverages sold  
11 in the State;

12  
13 B. ~~Thirty~~ Sixty cents per gallon on all wine, other than  
14 sparkling wine, sold in the State;

15  
16 C. ~~Twenty-four~~ Forty-eight cents per gallon on all  
17 sparkling wine sold in the State and all low-alcohol spirits  
18 products sold by a person licensed to sell wine for  
19 consumption on or off the premises; and

20  
21 D. ~~One-dollar-and-twenty-five~~ Two dollars and fifty cents  
22 per proof gallon as the term proof gallon is defined in the  
23 26 United States Code, ~~Title--26,~~ Section 5002, on all  
24 spirits sold in the State.

25  
26 **Sec. 4. 28-A MRSA §1703, sub-§4,** as amended by PL 1989, c.  
27 934, Pt. C, §4, is further amended to read:

28  
29 **4. Payment to General Fund.** The commission shall  
30 immediately pay all premiums it collects under this section to  
31 the Treasurer of State to be credited to the ~~General--Fund~~  
32 Alcoholism Prevention, Education, Treatment and Research Fund.

33  
34 **Sec. 5. 28-A MRSA §1703, sub-§5,** as enacted by PL 1989, c.  
35 934, Pt. C, §5, is repealed.

36  
37  
38 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

39  
40 This bill doubles the alcohol premium tax and requires that  
41 the tax be dedicated to providing prevention, education,  
42 treatment and research in substance abuse.  
43  
44