

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1316

H.P. 953

House of Representatives, March 4, 1997

**An Act to Remove Restrictions on Items that May Be Auctioned by
Public Broadcasting Stations.**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative MITCHELL of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: GREEN of Monmouth, PIEH of Bremen, ROWE of Portland.

2 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
as emergencies; and

4 Whereas, public broadcasting stations continue to struggle
6 to meet financial goals through public outreach; and

8 Whereas, a brewery, winery or wholesaler is currently
prohibited from making any contributions to public broadcasting
10 stations; and

12 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
14 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
16 safety; now, therefore,

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

20 **Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §708-B** is enacted to read:

22 **§708-B Donations to public broadcasting stations**

24 Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, a person
licensed in the State as a brewery, winery or wholesaler may
26 donate a gift certificate to purchase its product to a public
broadcasting station for the purpose of an auction or other
28 fundraising activity. Any donation is subject to the following:

30 1. Bureau notified. The bureau must be notified in writing
of any donation to a public broadcasting station by a brewery,
32 winery or wholesaler. The notification must include a
description of the donation, the estimated value of the donation
34 and the date on which the donation was made; and

36 2. Proof of age required. A public broadcasting station
must ensure that the recipient of the donated item is 21 years of
38 age or older.

40 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

42
44 **SUMMARY**

46 This bill allows a brewery, winery or wholesaler to donate a
gift certificate to purchase its product to a public broadcasting
48 station for the purpose of an auction or other fundraising
activity.