

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1015

H.P. 725

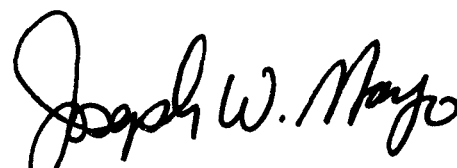
House of Representatives, February 4, 1999

**Resolve, to Implement the Recommendations of the Select Commission
to Study the Opening of a Discount State Liquor Store in Fort Kent.**

(EMERGENCY)

Reported by Representative O'NEAL for the Joint Select Commission to Study the Opening of a Discount Liquor Store in Fort Kent, pursuant to Public Law 1997, chapter 755, section 2.

Reference to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and printing ordered under Joint Rule 218.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

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

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6 Whereas, this resolve directs the Bureau of Alcoholic
Beverages and Lottery Operations to report back to the
Legislature by March 1, 1999 on important matters to the State;
8 and

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

16 **Sec. 1. Study of Calais discount state liquor store. Resolved:** That
the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations in the
18 Department of Administrative and Financial Services shall gather
information on the operations of the Calais discount state liquor
20 store for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal
and Veterans Affairs. The information must include sales figures
22 for the store, state revenue receipts, anticipated sales trends,
impact on area agency stores and other businesses and any other
24 information that the committee may need to determine whether
public interests are served by continuation of the discount store
26 in Calais. The information must be presented to the committee by
March 1, 1999. The Joint Standing Committee on Legal and
28 Veterans Affairs is authorized to report out legislation to the
First Regular Session of the 119th Legislature in response to the
30 information; and be it further

32 **Sec. 2. Study of Alternative Pricing Mechanisms. Resolved:** That
the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations in the
34 Department of Administrative and Financial Services shall examine
ways to alter the pricing of liquor to enable agency stores to
36 increase their profits, such as by increasing the 8% markup for
agency stores. The bureau shall report its findings to the Joint
38 Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs by March 1, 1999
and the committee is authorized to report out legislation to the
40 First Regular Session of the 119th Legislature in response to
this information.

42 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
44 preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

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SUMMARY

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This resolve proposes to implement the recommendations of the Joint Select Commission to Study the Opening of a Discount State Liquor Store in Fort Kent. The study recommends that the State not open a discount store in Fort Kent. The select commission also recommends that the decision to open the discount store in Calais be reevaluated. This resolve directs the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to provide information to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs on 2 issues relating to liquor sales: information relevant to determining whether to continue operating the discount state liquor store in Calais and information on possible changes in liquor pricing to enable agency liquor stores to increase their profits.