



120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1382

S.P. 427

In Senate, March 5, 2001

An Act to Permit Internet-based Communications to Facilitate the Purchase and Distribution of Wine.

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

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DAGGETT of Kennebec. Cosponsored by Representative NORBERT of Portland and Senator MITCHELL of Penobscot, Representatives: DUDLEY of Portland, DUNCAN of Presque Isle, MAYO of Bath.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: 2 Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §2, sub-§8, as amended by PL 1997, c. 373, 4 §11, is further amended to read: 6 8. Certificate of approval holder. "Certificate of approval holder" means an instate manufacturer, out-of-state 8 manufacturer or out-of-state wholesaler licensed by the bureau, including any out-of-state wholesaler that ships wine ordered 10 electronically via the Internet into the State as provided in section 2077-C to another certificate of approval holder licensed 12 by the bureau or a wholesaler or retailer licensed by the bureau. Sec. 2. 28-A MRSA §2077, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1993, c. 14 730, §49, is further amended to read: 16 Importation of malt liquor or wine into the State. 1. Ne 18 Except as provided by section 2077-C, a person other than a wholesale licensee, small brewery licensee or farm winery 20 licensee may not transport or cause to be transported malt liquor or wine into the State in a quantity greater than 3 gallons for 22 malt liquor and 4 quarts for wine, unless it was legally purchased in the State. 24 All shipments of malt liquor or wine transported or Α. 26 caused to be transported by wholesale licensees, small brewery licensees or farm winery licensees or certificate of approval holders into the State must be accompanied by an 28 invoice, including the wholesale licensee's, small brewery licensee's or farm winery licensee's name and purchase 30 Out-of-state wholesalers that ship wine to a number. 32 certificate of approval holder as provided in section 2077-C shall comply with the provisions of this paragraph. 34 Sec. 3. 28-A MRSA §2077-B, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 36 501, $\S6$, is amended to read: 38 1. Prohibition. A Except as provided by section 2077-C, a person may not sell, furnish, deliver or purchase liquor from an 40 out-of-state company by mail order. 42 Sec. 4. 28-A MRSA §2077-C is enacted to read: 44 <u>§2077-C</u> Shipping of wine ordered electronically via Internet 46 1. Certificate of approval holder. A certificate of approval holder may accept and fill an order for wine placed by a person electronically via the Internet for delivery in the 48 State by shipping the wine directly to a wholesaler licensed by 50 the bureau.

- 2 2. Wholesaler. A wholesaler licensed by the bureau may deliver wine within the State that was ordered electronically via
 4 the Internet to an establishment licensed to sell wine for consumption off of the premises.
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- 3. Off-premises licensee. A person licensed by the bureau 8 to sell wine for consumption off of the premises may deliver wine that was ordered electronically via the Internet to a person in 10 the State who is at least 21 years of age.
- **4. Rulemaking.** The bureau shall adopt rules necessary for the administration of this section, including provisions for the collection of all required taxes. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

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SUMMARY

This bill permits the interstate shipment of wine ordered via the Internet. Under this bill, wine shipped into the State must be delivered to a wholesaler or certificate of approval holder licensed by the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Liquor Enforcement. The wholesale licensee or the certificate of approval holder may deliver the wine to an off-premises licensee. The off-premises licensee may deliver the wine to a person within the State who is at least 21 years of age.