

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2002

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Legislative Document

No. 2055

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H.P. 1552

House of Representatives, January 8, 2002

**An Act to Delay the Date by Which the Use of Tokens or Tickets is  
Required for Games of Chance at Agricultural Fairs.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative CHICK of Lebanon.  
Cosponsored by Senator WOODCOCK of Franklin and  
Representatives: GERZOFKY of Brunswick, GOODWIN of Pembroke, GOOLEY of  
Farmington, HEIDRICH of Oxford, JACOBS of Turner, MURPHY of Berwick, SULLIVAN  
of Biddeford, TUTTLE of Sanford.

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

4           Whereas, agricultural fairs need more time to adjust to the  
6 requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17, section  
341, subsections 3 and 4; and

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

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

16           **Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §341, sub-§§3 and 4,** as amended by PL 2001, c.  
18 384, §1 and affected by §3, are further amended to read:

20           **3. Games conducted at agricultural fairs.** Beginning  
January 1, ~~2002~~ 2003, games of chance conducted at agricultural  
22 fairs may be conducted only with tickets, tokens or other device  
approved by the Chief of the State Police by rule distributed by  
24 the agricultural fair society.

26           **4. Games conducted at agricultural fairs by members of**  
**agricultural society or bona fide nonprofit.** Beginning January  
28 1, ~~2002~~ 2003, games of chance operated and conducted solely by  
members of an agricultural fair society or games of chance  
30 operated and conducted by members of bona fide nonprofit  
organizations on the grounds of the agricultural society and  
32 during the annual fair of the agricultural society may use cash,  
tickets, tokens or other device approved by the Chief of the  
34 State Police by rule.

36           Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the tickets,  
tokens or other device approved by the Chief of the State Police  
38 must be unique to the agricultural society and may be in  
denominations from 25¢ to 50¢. The tickets, tokens or device  
40 approved by the Chief of the State Police may be sold and  
redeemed only by a person who has been a member or active  
42 volunteer of the agricultural society for at least 2 fair  
seasons. The agricultural society has the burden of proof for  
44 demonstrating the qualification of members or active volunteers.

46           **Sec. 2. Retroactivity.** This Act applies retroactively to  
January 1, 2002.

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

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## SUMMARY

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This bill delays by one year the date by which the use of tokens or tickets is required for games of chance at agricultural fairs.

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