

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1351

H.P. 993

House of Representatives, March 13, 2003

An Act Regarding the Labeling of Returnable Containers

Reference to the Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative ADAMS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator BROMLEY of Cumberland and
Representatives: DAVIS of Falmouth, EDER of Portland, GROSE of Woolwich, O'BRIEN of
Lewiston, PELLON of Machias, SMITH of Monmouth, SULLIVAN of Biddeford.

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

2
4 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1865, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 491, §1, is further amended to read:

6 **1. Labels.** Except as provided under subsections 1-A and 2, the refund value and the word "Maine" or the abbreviation "ME" must be clearly indicated in letters, numerals and symbols no less than 1/8 inch high in clear and prominent typeface and color on every refundable beverage container sold or offered for sale by a dealer in this State, by embossing, stamping, labeling or other method of secure attachment to the beverage container. The refund value may not be indicated on the bottom of the container. Metal beverage containers must be embossed or stamped on the top of the container.

16 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §1865, sub-§1-A**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 819, §4, is further amended to read:

20 **1-A. Labels; nonrefillable containers; nonexclusive distributorships.** With respect to nonrefillable beverage containers the deposits for which are initiated pursuant to section 1863-A, subsection 3, the refund value and the word "Maine" or the abbreviation "ME" must be clearly indicated in letters, numerals and symbols no less than 1/8 inch high in clear and prominent typeface and prominent or contrasting color on every refundable beverage container sold or offered for sale by a dealer in this State, by permanently embossing or permanently stamping the beverage containers, except in instances when the initiator of the deposit has specific permission from the department to use stickers or similar devices. The refund value may not be indicated on the bottom of the container. Metal beverage containers must be permanently embossed or permanently stamped on the tops of the containers.

36 **Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §1865, sub-§1-B**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 437, §1, is amended to read:

38 **1-B. Labels; nonrefillable containers; exclusive distributorships.** Notwithstanding subsection 1 and with respect to nonrefillable beverage containers, for the deposits that are initiated pursuant to section 1863-A, subsection 2, the refund value and the word "Maine" or the abbreviation "ME" may be clearly indicated in letters, numerals and symbols no less than 1/8 inch high in clear and prominent typeface and color on refundable beverage containers sold or offered for sale by a dealer in this State by use of stickers or similar devices if those containers are not otherwise marked in accordance with subsection 1. A redemption center shall accept containers identified by stickers in accordance with this subsection or by embossing or stamping in accordance with subsection 1.

