

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 1188

H.P. 817

House of Representatives, March 8, 2005

**An Act To Ensure Ready Access by Consumers to Information
Regarding Alcoholic Beverages and Gambling Activities while
Decreasing Gambling Abuse**

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

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND

Clerk

Presented by Representative FAIRCLOTH of Bangor.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 8 MRSA §374, sub-§1, ¶M,** as enacted by PL 1997, c.
301, §2, is amended to read:

6 M. The imprinting on all lottery tickets sold in the State
of the overall odds of winning a prize for each game
8 pursuant to section 390.

10 **Sec. 2. 8 MRSA §§390 and 390-A** are enacted to read:

12 **§390. Consumer information**

14 An advertisement or ticket for a lottery under this chapter
16 or chapter 16 must state the odds of winning the highest prize
18 for that lottery and include the telephone number for the
20 statewide mental health crisis 24-hour hotline administered by
22 the Department of Health and Human Services that a person may
24 call to address gambling addiction. If an advertisement is in
print, the stated odds and telephone number required by this
section must be easily readable. The stated odds and telephone
number required by this section must be printed on both sides of
a ticket for a lottery under this chapter or chapter 16.

26 **§390-A. Credit card sales prohibited**

28 A lottery ticket or share may not be purchased by a credit
card as defined by Title 9-A, section 1-301, subsection 16.

30 **Sec. 3. 28-A MRSA §15** is enacted to read:

32 **§15. Consumer information**

34 1. Off-premises licensees. A licensee under chapter 19 or
36 chapter 45 shall display one sign per 20 linear feet of shelf
38 space dedicated to alcoholic beverages listing the statewide
40 mental health crisis 24-hour hotline administered by the
Department of Health and Human Services that a person may call to
discuss alcohol abuse issues. A licensee who has less than 20
linear feet of shelf space dedicated to alcoholic beverages is
exempt from the requirements of this subsection.

42 2. On-premises licensees. A licensee under chapter 43 shall
44 display in a location behind the bar that is clearly visible to
46 patrons a sign listing the statewide mental health crisis 24-hour
hotline administered by the Department of Health and Human
Services that a person may call to discuss alcohol abuse issues.

48 **Sec. 4. Lottery ticket print.** The State Liquor and Lottery
50 Commission shall double the size of the print that exists on the

2 effective date of this Act of the odds of winning the highest
prize on a ticket for a lottery under the Maine Revised Statutes,
Title 8, chapters 14-A and 16.

4
6 **Sec. 5. Crisis hotline.** The Commissioner of Health and Human
Services shall ensure that the statewide mental health crisis
8 24-hour hotline administered by the Department of Health and
Human Services accepts calls from and provides referrals for
10 persons who have gambling or alcohol issues or other substance
abuse and addiction issues.

12 **Sec. 6. Alcohol abuse signs.** The Commissioner of Public Safety
shall create a sign listing the statewide mental health crisis
14 24-hour hotline administered by the Department of Health and
Human Services that a person may call to discuss alcohol abuse
16 issues pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-A,
section 15. The commissioner shall make the sign available
18 on-line to be downloaded and printed or upon request of a
licensee under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-A, chapters
20 19, 43 and 45.

22 SUMMARY

24 This bill does the following.

26 1. It requires lottery advertisements to include the odds
28 of winning the jackpot and the telephone number of statewide
mental health crisis hotline administered by the Department of
30 Health and Human Services that a person may call about gambling
addiction.

32 2. It prohibits the purchase of lottery tickets with a
34 credit card.

36 3. It requires most alcohol retailers to post a sign
listing the telephone number of statewide mental health crisis
38 24-hour hotline administered by the Department of Health and
Human Services that a person may call who has substance abuse
40 issues.

42 4. It requires the State Liquor and Lottery Commission to
double the size of the print of the odds of winning on lottery
44 tickets and to display on both sides of the ticket the odds of
winning the jackpot and a 24-hour hotline telephone number.

46 5. It directs the Commissioner of Health and Human Services
48 to ensure that a statewide mental health crisis 24-hour hotline
administered by the Department of Health and Human Services
50 accepts calls from and provides referrals for persons who have
alcohol or gambling issues or other substance abuse and addiction
52 issues.

2 6. It directs the Commissioner of Public Safety to create a
3 sign listing the statewide mental health crisis 24-hour hotline
4 administered by the Department of Health and Human Services that
5 a person may call to discuss alcohol abuse issues and make the
6 sign available on-line to be printed or upon request of a retail
liquor licensee.