

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 1497

S.P. 524

March 19, 2007

An Act To Improve Local Control over Bars

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator STRIMLING of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §4, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 21, §1, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **1. Hours for sale of liquor.** Except as provided in paragraphs A to ~~D~~ E, licensees
5 may sell or deliver liquor from 6 a.m. on any day until 1 a.m. of the following day.

6 A. Licensees may not sell liquor on Sunday between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 a.m.

7 B. Licensees may sell liquor on January 1st of any year from 12 midnight to 2 a.m.

8 (1) In areas in which liquor may be sold except on Sundays, if January 1st falls
9 on a Monday, licensees may sell or deliver liquor between 9 p.m. Sunday,
10 December 31st and 2 a.m. January 1st, notwithstanding any local option
11 decisions to the contrary.

12 D. Wholesale licensees may sell or deliver liquor to licensed establishments from 4
13 a.m. on any day until 1 a.m. the following day.

14 E. A municipality may enact a local ordinance that establishes different closing
15 times.

16 **Sec. 2. 28-A MRSA §653, sub-§2, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 45, Pt. A, §4,
17 is further amended to read:

18 B. Noncompliance of the licensed premises or its use with any local zoning
19 ordinance or other land use ordinance not directly related to liquor control except a
20 local ordinance that establishes a closing time or times different from the time
21 established in section 4;

22 **SUMMARY**

23 Current law sets the closing time for businesses that are licensed for the on-premises
24 consumption of alcohol. This bill allows municipalities to establish a different time or
25 times through the enactment of a local ordinance. This bill provides that a license may
26 not be denied for noncompliance with a municipal ordinance that sets a different time of
27 closing.