

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 415

S.P. 142

In Senate, February 7, 2017

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**An Act To Modify the Amount of Product Samples of Malt Liquor,  
Wine or Spirits That May Be Provided to Retail Licensees**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MASON of Androscoggin.  
Cosponsored by Representative LUCHINI of Ellsworth and  
Senators: CARPENTER of Aroostook, COLLINS of York, Representative: FARRIN of  
Norridgewock.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §1402-A, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 629, §27, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 **4. Full-bottle samples.** The maximum amount of unopened full-bottle samples  
5 given to a retail licensee may not exceed ~~9~~ 18 gallons of malt ~~beverage~~ liquor and ~~9~~ 18  
6 liters of wine annually. A full-bottle sample is an unopened bottle of wine or malt  
7 ~~beverage~~ liquor given to a retail licensee, which may be consumed by a retail licensee on  
8 or off the premises; and

9 **Sec. 2. 28-A MRSA §1504, sub-§5**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 629, §31, is  
10 further amended to read:

11 **5. Full-bottle samples.** The maximum amount of unopened full-bottle samples of  
12 distilled spirits given to a retail licensee by a sales representative may not exceed ~~3~~ 6  
13 liters per year per distiller represented by that sales representative. Individual samples  
14 may not exceed one liter. A full-bottle sample is an unopened bottle of spirits provided to  
15 an agency liquor store or an on-premises retail licensee licensed to sell spirits.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 Current law allows a brewery, winery or wholesaler to provide to a retail licensee  
18 samples of products, limited to 9 gallons of malt liquor and 9 liters of wine annually.  
19 This bill increases the annual limit to 18 gallons of malt liquor and 18 liters of wine.

20 Current law allows a licensed sales representative for a distilled spirits manufacturer  
21 or supplier to give to a retail licensee a maximum of 3 liters per year per distiller  
22 represented by the sales representative. This bill increases the annual limit to 6 liters per  
23 distiller.