

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 544

H.P. 388

House of Representatives, February 9, 2017

An Act To Expand Wine and Beer Tastings at Retail Establishments

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TERRY of Gorham.
Cosponsored by Representatives: FAY of Raymond, MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth,
SAMPSON of Alfred, Senator: DILL of Penobscot.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §1205, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 129, §4, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **1. Taste testing on off-premise retail licensee's premises.** Subject to the
5 conditions in subsection 2, the bureau may authorize an off-premise retail licensee
6 stocking ~~at least 125 different~~ wine labels to conduct taste testings of wine on that
7 licensee's premises. An off-premise retail licensee may request authority to conduct a
8 taste testing using forms prescribed by the bureau. The request must indicate if a sales
9 representative licensed under section 1502 will be pouring samples for taste testing and
10 verification that the sales representative has successfully completed an alcohol server
11 education course approved by the commissioner. Any other consumption of alcoholic
12 beverages on an off-premise retail licensee's premises is prohibited.

13 **Sec. 2. 28-A MRSA §1207, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 129, §6, is
14 further amended to read:

15 **1. Taste testing on off-premise retail licensee's premises.** Subject to the
16 conditions in subsection 2, the bureau may authorize an off-premise retail licensee
17 stocking ~~at least 100 different labels of~~ malt liquor to conduct taste testing of malt liquor
18 on that licensee's premises. An off-premise retail licensee may request authority to
19 conduct a taste testing using forms prescribed by the bureau. The request must indicate if
20 a sales representative licensed under section 1502 will be pouring samples for taste
21 testing and verification that the sales representative has successfully completed an alcohol
22 server education course approved by the commissioner. Any other consumption of
23 alcoholic beverages on an off-premise retail licensee's premises is prohibited, except as
24 permitted under section 460 or 1205.

25 **SUMMARY**

26 Current law allows a person licensed for retail sale of wine or malt liquor for off-
27 premises consumption to conduct taste testings on the licensee's premises if the licensee
28 stocks at least 125 different labels of wine or 100 different labels of malt liquor. This bill
29 removes the minimum stock requirements.