

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

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Legislative Document

No. 338

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H.P. 263

House of Representatives, January 24, 2019

### **An Act To Allow Flexibility in the Deposit Labeling of Metal Returnable Beverage Containers**

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Reference to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAY of Raymond.  
Cosponsored by Senator FOLEY of York and  
Representatives: CAMPBELL of Orrington, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MAXMIN of  
Nobleboro, ORDWAY of Standish, RISEMAN of Harrison, SCHNECK of Bangor.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §3105, sub-§§1 and 2**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 166, §14, are  
3 amended to read:

4 **1. Labels.** Except as provided under subsections 2 and 4, the refund value and the  
5 word "Maine" or the abbreviation "ME" must be clearly indicated on every refundable  
6 beverage container sold or offered for sale by a dealer in this State, by embossing,  
7 stamping, labeling or other method of secure attachment to the beverage container. The  
8 refund value may not be indicated on the bottom of the container. ~~Metal beverage~~  
9 ~~containers must be embossed or stamped on the top of the container.~~

10 **2. Labels; nonrefillable containers; nonexclusive distributorships.** With respect  
11 to nonrefillable beverage containers the deposits for which are initiated pursuant to  
12 section 3103, subsection 3, the refund value and the word "Maine" or the abbreviation  
13 "ME" must be clearly indicated on every refundable beverage container sold or offered  
14 for sale by a dealer in this State, by permanently embossing or permanently stamping the  
15 beverage containers, except in instances when the initiator of the deposit has specific  
16 permission from the department to use stickers or similar devices. The refund value may  
17 not be indicated on the bottom of the container. ~~Metal beverage containers must be~~  
18 ~~permanently embossed or permanently stamped on the tops of the containers.~~

19 **SUMMARY**

20 Current law requires that returnable metal beverage containers be labeled with the  
21 refund value and the word "Maine" or "ME" embossed or stamped on the tops of the  
22 containers. This bill allows that information to appear anywhere except on the bottom of  
23 the container.