

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 2031

H.P. 1513

House of Representatives, March 22, 2022

An Act To Allow Outdoor Stadiums To Sell Spirits

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DUNPHY of Old Town.

1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** outdoor stadiums are currently authorized to serve alcohol, but only wine
4 and malt liquor; and

5 **Whereas,** authorizing outdoor stadiums to also serve spirits will benefit the State's
6 tourism industry; and

7 **Whereas,** the Legislature recognizes the importance of ensuring that outdoor
8 stadiums are authorized to serve spirits in time for this year's tourism season; and

9 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
10 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
11 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
12 therefore,

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

14 **Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §2, sub-§15, ¶M,** as amended by PL 2011, c. 629, §3, is
15 further amended to read:

16 M. "Outdoor stadium" means any commercially operated outdoor facility with 3,000
17 or more fixed seats designed or used for the playing of any sport or event that is open
18 to the general public, charges a fee and has adequate facilities for the sale and
19 consumption of wine ~~and~~ malt liquor and spirits.

20 **Sec. 2. 28-A MRSA §1074, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 1997, c. 373, §101, is
21 further amended to read:

22 **1. Issuance of licenses.** The bureau may issue licenses under this section for the sale
23 of wine ~~and~~ malt liquor and spirits to be consumed on the premises to outdoor stadiums,
24 as defined in section 2, subsection 15, paragraph M. A concessionaire or lessee may be
25 issued a license under this section, regardless of whether it controls the premises, as long
26 as that concessionaire or lessee complies with the notice provisions applicable to qualified
27 catering services in section 1076, subsection 7 prior to exercising the license.

28 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation
29 takes effect when approved.

30 **SUMMARY**

31 This bill amends the liquor licensing laws governing outdoor stadiums to allow outdoor
32 stadiums to serve spirits, in addition to wine and malt liquor as provided in current law.