

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 415

S.P. 196

In Senate, February 2, 2023

An Act to Allow Nonalcoholic Sparkling Cider to Be Sold in Maine

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren and
Senators: BLACK of Franklin, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, Representative: CRAY of
Palmyra.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §543-A, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 111, §3, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **4. Exemption.** Hard cider is and nonalcoholic carbonated cider labeled as "sparkling
5 cider" are exempt from this section. For purposes of this subsection, "hard cider" means
6 liquor produced by fermentation of the juice of apples or pears, including, but not limited
7 to, flavored, sparkling or carbonated cider, that contains not less than 1/2 of 1% alcohol by
8 volume and "liquor" has the same meaning as in Title 28-A, section 2, subsection 16.

9 **SUMMARY**

10 This bill exempts nonalcoholic carbonated cider labeled as "sparkling cider" from
11 restrictions on products labeled as cider.