

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

Legislative Document

No. 2036

H.P. 1366

House of Representatives, December 5, 2025

An Act to Clarify the Approval Process for and the Operation of the Commingling Program for the Management of Beverage Containers

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 3, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington.

1 commingling program submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection by the
2 commingling cooperative must be designed to complete the transition from beverage
3 container sorting by brand to sorting by material type no later than October 1, 2026, as long
4 as at least 90% of the initiators of deposit included in the program have provided auditable
5 beverage container sales data to the commingling cooperative by June 30, 2026. It also
6 provides that the department's review of and determination of whether to approve or reject
7 an operation plan submitted by the commingling cooperative is not a license or permit
8 decision or other final action of the department and is not subject to the rules adopted by
9 the department regarding processing of applications. These changes to the laws governing
10 the beverage container redemption program are made retroactive to January 1, 2025.