130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document **No. 378**

S.P. 166 In Senate, February 10, 2021

An Act To Temporarily Waive Renewal Fees for On-premises Retail Liquor Licenses

(EMERGENCY)

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on February 8, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LUCHINI of Hancock.
Cosponsored by Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford and
Senators: CURRY of Waldo, FARRIN of Somerset, President JACKSON of Aroostook,
Representatives: CAIAZZO of Scarborough, WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor.

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

Whereas, the spread of the novel coronavirus disease referred to as COVID-19 has created a public health emergency; and

Whereas, in response to the public health emergency, the Governor has issued executive orders limiting the ability of restaurants and other businesses to sell liquor for on-premises consumption; and

Whereas, the limitation on selling liquor for on-premises consumption has led to decreased revenue for those businesses and a corresponding decreased ability to timely pay license renewal fees; and

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

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

Sec. 1. One-time waiver of fee for license renewal. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, an applicant for renewal of an on-premises retail license issued by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-A is not required to pay a license renewal fee for that license in 2021.

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

SUMMARY

This bill temporarily exempts restaurants and other entities seeking renewal of a license to sell beer, wine or spirits for on-premises consumption from any license renewal fee in 2021.