**An Act To Require the Acceptance of Cash for In-person Retail Transactions**

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

**Sec.** **1. 10 MRSA c. 233** is enacted to read:

**CHAPTER** **233**

**PAYMENT BY CASH**

**§****1500-N.** **Payment by cash**

A person offering goods or services for sale at retail may not refuse payment in the form of cash for the goods or services or require payment only by an electronic method. For purposes of this section, "at retail" means any retail transaction conducted in person and does not include a transaction conducted remotely by telephone, mail or the Internet. A violation of this section constitutes a civil violation for which a fine of up to $500 for the first offense and up to $1,000 for a 2nd or subsequent offense may be adjudged.

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires a person offering goods or services for sale at retail in person to accept cash and prohibits the person from accepting payment only by an electronic method. These provisions do not apply to transactions conducted remotely by telephone, mail or the Internet. A violation of these provisions constitutes a civil violation for which a fine of up to $500 for a first offense and a fine of up to $1,000 for a 2nd or subsequent offense may be adjudged.