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An Act To Curb Drunk Driving by Prohibiting a Person Convicted of Operating Under the Influence from Purchasing Alcohol

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

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2411, sub-§5-C is enacted to read:

5-C. Discretionary penalty. In sentencing a person for a violation of this section, in addition to any penalties provided for under subsections 5 and 5-B, the court may order as a penalty that the person is prohibited from purchasing alcoholic beverages for the time period of the OUI suspension.

Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2451, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Notice to driver; notation on driver's license prohibiting purchase of alcoholic beverages. On receipt of an attested copy of a court record of a prohibition from purchasing alcoholic beverages pursuant to section 2411, subsection 5-C, the Secretary of State shall immediately record the order prohibiting the purchase of alcoholic beverages and shall send written notice of the suspension to the person whose license has been suspended. The Secretary of State shall adopt rules to provide for notice to the person and to provide for a notation to be placed on the person's driver's license indicating the order prohibiting the purchase of alcoholic beverages. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined by Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

SUMMARY

This bill provides an additional penalty for operating under the influence of intoxicants or with an excessive alcohol level. The bill allows the court, when sentencing a person for criminal operating under the influence, to impose an order prohibiting the person from purchasing alcoholic beverages for the time period of the suspension. The bill requires the Secretary of State, upon receiving an attested copy of the court order, to record the order and notify the person. The bill directs the Secretary of State to adopt rules regarding notice to the person and notation on the person's driver's license of the prohibition and designates the rules as routine technical rules.