

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

## **An Act to Modify the Number of Retail Liquor Licenses Allowed in Certain Municipalities**

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

**Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §453, sub-§2-A**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2015, c. 494, Pt. A, §31, is amended to read:

**2-A. Limitation on number of agency liquor stores.** ~~Beginning July 1, 2009, the~~The bureau may license up to 10 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over 45,000; up to 9 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over 30,000 but less than 45,001; up to 8 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over ~~20,000~~16,000 but less than 30,001; up to 5 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population of at least 10,001 but less than ~~20,001~~16,001; up to 4 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population of at least 5,001 but less than 10,001; up to 3 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population of at least 2,000 but less than 5,001; and one agency liquor store in a municipality ~~where the~~with a population ~~is~~of less than 2,000. The bureau may issue one additional agency liquor store license beyond those otherwise authorized by this subsection in a municipality with a population of less than 10,000. The bureau may consider the impact of seasonal population or tourism and other related information provided by the municipality requesting an additional agency liquor store license.

Nothing in this subsection may be construed to reduce the number of agency liquor stores the bureau may license in a municipality as of June 30, 2009.

### **SUMMARY**

This bill allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to license up to 8 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population of at least 16,001 but less than 30,001; current law requires a population of at least 20,001 before a municipality qualifies for 8 agency liquor stores. The population threshold to qualify for 5 agency liquor stores remains at 10,001.