



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 613

H.P. 426

House of Representatives, March 3, 2015

**An Act To Allow Certain Businesses To Be Open on Easter Day,
Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day**

Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative LYFORD of Eddington.
Cosponsored by Senator CUSHING of Penobscot and
Representatives: CAMPBELL of Orrington, HILLIARD of Belgrade, STEARNS of Guilford,
WARD of Dedham.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §3204, sub-§2, ¶HH,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. I, §55
3 and affected by Pt. X, §2, is amended to read:

4 HH. Stores with more than 5,000 square feet of interior customer selling space that
5 engage in retail sales and that do not require, as a condition of employment, that their
6 employees work on Sundays. If an employer decreases the average weekly work
7 hours of an employee who has declined to work on Sundays, it is prima facie
8 evidence that the employer has required Sunday work as a condition of employment
9 in violation of this section, unless the employer and employee agreed that the
10 employee would work on Sundays when the employee was initially hired. In no
11 event, however, may any store having more than ~~5,000~~ 10,000 square feet of interior
12 customer selling space be open on Easter Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day
13 unless that store is operated and staffed only by the owner or a member of the owner's
14 immediate family on those days. As used in this paragraph, "immediate family"
15 means the owner's spouse, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sister, half-sister,
16 brother, half-brother, stepparent, stepgrandparent, stepchild, stepgrandchild,
17 stepsister, stepbrother, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law,
18 son-in-law, daughter-in-law, guardian, former guardian, domestic partner, the half-
19 brother or half-sister of the owner's spouse or the spouse of the owner's half-brother
20 or half-sister.

21 **SUMMARY**

22 Current law prohibits stores with more than 5,000 square feet of interior customer
23 selling space from being open on Easter Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.
24 This bill prohibits stores with more than 10,000 square feet of interior customer selling
25 space from being open on Easter Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day but allows
26 such a store to be open on those holidays if the store is operated and staffed only by the
27 owner or an immediate family member of the owner.