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INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 892, L.D. 1217, “An Act To Require the Acceptance of Cash for In-person Retail Transactions”

Amend the bill in section 1 in c. 233 in §1500-N by striking out all of the first indented paragraph (page 1, lines 6 to 11 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'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. A person offering goods or services for sale at retail may not charge a higher price or fee for a payment in the form of cash for the goods or services. 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. This section does not apply to the rental of goods or services. A violation of this section constitutes a civil violation for which a fine of up to \$25 for the first offense and up to \$500 for a 2nd or subsequent offense may be adjudged.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, adds that a person offering goods or services for sale at retail in person may not charge a higher price or fee for a cash payment. It also adds an exemption for the rental of goods and services. The fines for a violation are reduced from \$500 to \$25 for a first offense and from \$1,000 to \$500 for a 2nd or subsequent offense.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT