



State YMCA of Maine **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



BILL # 2012 – 104

Bill Sponsor: Jilli McAllister

School / Club / YMCA: Lawrence High School

Endorsed By: Mr. Morrisette

Referred to the committee on: Business and Labor

An Act Relating To: Legalizing state regulated prostitution

Be it enacted by the State YMCA of Maine's 2012 Youth in Government Program as follows:

1. **SECTION 1** This bill establishes a solution , the industry can be run under the same methods
2. as Nevada , with the exception of some minor altercations. Nevada has regulations on the
3. industry and individual counties have further regulations regarding thier own concerns if any at
4. all. The state of maines population is smaller than Nevadas so some of the restrictions such as,
5. the brothel has to be located in a county with a population less than 40,000 people, limiting
6. frustration for thoes who oppose the industry. Brothels will be insepcted along with the
7. prostitutes weekly, birth control and other percautions are mandatory. Brothels are liable for
8. any accustions, lawsuits and such, their responsible to make sure wavers are signed and all
9. other legal aspects. Any acts outside a brothel are illegal and will be charged, brothels that do
10. not obied by the regulations will be chrged. Employes of brotheles must be 18 years of age or
11. older, brothels are fined \$100,000 for anyone employed between the ages of 14 to 17, and a
12. \$500,000 dollar fine for anyone under the age of fourteen. Already applied laws and restrictions
13. will be charged and any necessary restrictions regarding the stability of the industry shall be
14. imposed.The state can tax it, at minimum the figures are approximatley 2 million in revenue,
15. not includeing licensing fees. This opens up a great oppurtunity to minimize corruption and
16. provide jobs and get maine out of debt.

STATEMENT OF FACT:

Prostitution is not a major source of STD spread approximately only three to five percent of the spread is prostitution related. Studies show nintyseven percent of prostitutes said that they feel better and more confident about them selves after becoming a prostitute. Theres over 1 million prostitutes in the U.S. eighty percent of them are sexually assulted, approximateley only seven percent seek help. This act still occurs legal or not, legalizing it would make the buisness significantly less corrupt. Cities spend between one to twentythree million dollars on prostitution contorl each year.

JUSTIFICATION

Society is very corrupt and poverty is a major issue with it getting harder to find jobs , fule prices rising, the demand for a higher education, etc. People less fortunate are resulting to things that are illegal or just suffering. Instead of putting all our efforts into stopping this, why not allow it. This could get things flowing economically promoteing buisness and jobs and millions for the state. Securing this would also indirectly help it would attract people, for people to travel here they need food, fuel etc. things that we tax. Its an advantage for society as a whole.;

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

The revenue this will generate is significant with a tax on the brothels and prostitutes, licensing fees, and entertainment fees. This also has a great economic impact on the individual counties, who would also get revenue and provides jobs for the people.

REFERENCES:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prostitution_in_Nevada, www.npr.org, www.thedailybeast.com
www.kuro5hin.org, <http://www.maine.gov/sos/kids/government/counties.htm>

BILL SUMMARY

The purpose is to get revenue for the state and bring in job oppurtunites, increaseing economic flow in maine. The buisness would be state regulated, ensureing the contentment of the employed and general public.



State YMCA of Maine
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



BILL # 2012 -214

Bill Sponsor: Judy Yau

Bill Co-Sponsor(s): Meghan Flanigan

School / Club / YMCA: Maine School of Science and Mathematics

Endorsed By: Daniel Melega

Referred to the committee on: Education

An Act Relating To:

Require that all public secondary schools to provide more courses in multiple levels

Be it enacted by the State YMCA of Maine's 2012 Youth in Government Program as follows:

1. **SECTION 1:** The State of Maine will mandate all middle schools to provide seventh and eighth
2. grade students with three different course difficulty levels in schools with more than twenty-five
3. students per grade.
4. **SECTION 2:** Schools with less than twenty-five students may have the optional to provide
5. these courses at all, or to provide less than the three courses required for other schools.
6. **SECTION 3:** These courses will have at least three different levels in math, science, social
7. studies, and humanities. These levels will separate the students in each seventh and eighth
8. grade by ability of performance in the subject.

STATEMENT OF FACT:

Today, studies have shown that seventh and eighth graders tend to be less motivated in academics. This leads to a decline in research and advancement in science. However, when students are divided by ability in each subject, students gain more knowledge in each subject.

JUSTIFICATION:

Students should be able to work and learn at their own pace. They should not wait for their classmates to learn or fall behind because other students do not understand. This law will give students an opportunity to receive more instructor attention and become more motivated in their studies.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

The state of Maine will have to hire more teachers to teach these courses. These schools will need to pay each of these new teachers a starting salary of \$20,000. This money will come from an increase in state taxes.

REFERENCES:

- <http://web.ebscohost.com.ursus-proxy-10.ursus.maine.edu/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=5f601d4c-ce5c-4e8e-8ab6-ac054e16456e%40sessionmgr4&vid=4&hid=21>
<http://www.sharingsuccess.org/code/bv/abilitygrouping.pdf>
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/07/090715074932.htm>

BILL SUMMARY

This bill will allow middle schools to provide courses for students with varying abilities.



State YMCA of Maine **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



BILL # 2012 -302

Bill Sponsor: Imogen Page

School / Club / YMCA: Maine School of Science and Math

Endorsed By: Daniel Melega

Referred to the committee on: Financial Affairs

An Act Relating To:

To Raise Tobacco Taxes In The State Of Maine

Be it enacted by the State YMCA of Maine's 2012 Youth in Government Program as follows:

1. **SECTION 1:** The State of Maine will raise its cigarette tax (initiated in 1941) from \$2.00 to
2. \$3.00 per pack of twenty cigarettes, and ensure that there is a tax of at least 30% of initial
3. price on all other 'tobacco products' as defined by the Maine Revenue Services.
4. **Tobacco products defined:** Any product made of the plant *Nicotina tabacum*, including but
5. not limited to chewing tobacco, cigars, blunt cigars, cigarillos, kreteks, dissolvable tobacco,
6. dokha, snuff, and tobacco for use in hookah pipes.
7. **SECTION 2:** 33.3% of the revenue generated by the additional dollar per pack in taxes fund
8. free Quit Smoking programmes through Tobacco Free Maine, an organization assisting and
9. educating Maine citizens in quitting tobacco and the dangers of its use. 33.3% will be awarded
10. to small Maine agricultural businesses to assist them in growing and keeping their prices
11. competitive. This is to assure that fresh, local food is affordable to the citizens of Maine and to
12. help keep money spent on food within the state, rather than have it go to international
13. corporations. The remaining 33.3% of additional revenue will go to the state

STATEMENT OF FACT:

Tobacco causes more deaths in the State of Maine than alcohol, AIDS, car crashes, illegal drugs, murders and suicides combined.

Local foodservice businesses in Maine and throughout the United States have difficulty competing with large, public corporation department stores and supermarkets such as Wal-Mart.

In the year 2005, with cigarette taxes set at \$2.00 per pack, the State of Maine collected \$91.9 million in all tobacco taxes.

JUSTIFICATION:

If taxes on tobacco are raised, public health will benefit because Maine citizens will purchase fewer tobacco products and have more disposable income to spend, particularly on fresh produce, revitalizing other sectors of Maine's economy. Another intention of this bill is to support and create agricultural jobs in Maine.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

Assuming that tobacco sales in the State of Maine are approximately consistent with sales in 2005, an additional \$45.95 million will be collected in taxes. One-third or \$15,316,667 of this will be used to finance Tobacco Free Maine programs, the same one-third or \$15,316,667 will be awarded to local agricultural businesses, and the remaining one-third or \$15,316,667 will go to the state.

REFERENCES:

<http://www.stateline.org/live/details/story?contentId=178571>

<http://www.tobaccofreemaine.org/explore>

http://choosebangor.com/assets/Retail_Sales.pdf

BILL SUMMARY

This bill will raise the Maine State tobacco tax from \$2.00 to \$3.00, awarding the additional revenue equally to quit-smoking programs sponsored by Tobacco Free Maine, the State, and Maine agricultural workers respectively.



State YMCA of Maine **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



BILL # 2012 – 405

Bill Sponsor: Chris Motley

Bill Co-Sponsor(s): Austin Knowlton

School / Club / YMCA: Lawrence High School

Endorsed By: David Morrisette

Referred to the committee on: Health and Human Services

An Act Relating To:

Maine Healthcare for the Impoverished

Be it enacted by the State YMCA of Maine's 2012 Youth in Government Program as follows:

1. **SECTION 1:** In 2011, there were 200,000 people in Maine at or below poverty level. That year,
2. Maine spent approximately \$4,000 on healthcare per capita. DEFINITION OF PER CAPITA: FOR
3. EVERY SINGLE PERSON IN A GIVEN AREA. Based on this information, the state of Maine would
4. need to raise \$800,000 to pay for the healthcare of our impoverished citizens.
5. **SECTION 2:** If the Maine sales tax on products and prepared food and lodging were each
6. raised by two percent, or two cents per dollar paid, this money would be raised in one year.
7. **SECTION 3:** To receive this healthcare, a citizen must be at or below poverty level- within the
8. income bracket of \$11,170. For a family of two, the maximum eligible income will be \$15,130.
9. For a family of three, it is \$19,090, and for each family member after that, it is \$3,960 higher.

STATEMENT OF FACT:

The poverty level in Maine is \$11,170 for one person, \$15,130 for two, and \$19,090 for three, etc (rising at intervals of \$3,960 per person in household/family). In 2011 14% of Maine's inhabitants were at or below poverty level

JUSTIFICATION:

People who are impoverished are not able to pay for medicare, and this fund is only available for those people. This means you will not be paying for people who can afford it. You would also be helping out around 14% of Mainers get the medical attention they need.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

An increase of \$0.02(2%) will be applied to Maine sales taxes on products (which will be \$0.07 after the change), and prepared food and lodging (which will become \$0.09). This will generate a revenue of \$800,000,000. Maine spent about \$800,000,000 on healthcare last year.

REFERENCES:

www.maine.gov, US Census Bureau, www.taxfoundation.org

BILL SUMMARY

This bill will implicate a raise in Maine's Sales tax by 2%. The money raised will pay for healthcare for Maine citizens at or below poverty level.



State YMCA of Maine **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



BILL # 2012 – 502

Bill Sponsor: Zack Labadie

School / Club / YMCA: Lewiston High School

Referred to the committee on: Justice

Bill Co-Sponsor(s): Tom Lepage

Endorsed By: Keith Levesque

An Act Relating To:

Legalize Marijuana

Be it enacted by the State YMCA of Maine's 2012 Youth in Government Program as follows:

- 1. SECTION 1:** Legalize marijuana in all forms and for all purposes.
- 2. SECTION 2:** Provide that marijuana be sold only at a store that is not physically connected to any other
- 3. structure and this store can only sell marijuana.**
- 4. SECTION 3:** All marijuana stores must also be licensed by the state, renewing their license every year for
- 5. \$500 fee.**
- 6. SECTION 4:** All marijuana stores must be at least a mile away from any public school.
- 7. SECTION 5:** All marijuana sold in the stores that is produced within the state will have a ten percent tax
- 8. placed upon it in addition to sales tax. All marijuana produced outside of the state will receive a twenty**
- 9. five percent tax placed upon it and must be produced by a grower that complies with the medicinal**
- 10. marijuana laws of the state in which they are growing as well as Maine state laws.**
- 11. SECTION 6:** To purchase marijuana or enter a marijuana store you must be 18 or older.

STATEMENT OF FACT:

Marijuana is the largest cash crop in Maine. Marijuana is producing more revenue than all other crops that are being grown legally. In 2005, the DEA seized 440 pounds of processed marijuana in the state that you would find it distributed on the street. Assuming this accounts for even 50% of what was actually sold on the street in 2005, 880 pounds of marijuana would be worth \$4.05 million dollars. This doesn't include the amount of plants that were eradicated, which amounts to 9,076 plants. Assuming that this only accounts for half of the marijuana actually grown in the state would mean that 18,152 plants were produced. Plants, on average, produce 6 ounces of dried marijuana per plant. This would mean that upwards of 6,807 pounds are produced in Maine every year. This is \$31,380,270 that the state isn't drawing any taxes from every year. These are all very conservative figures because the DEA is not stopping half of the marijuana trade every year. These figures are based on the numbers that would result from the DEA stopping half of all marijuana distribution and production in the state. There are no reliable numbers for what hemp would be worth because there are no states where its production is legal. Hemp can be used for textiles, building materials, food, body care, plastic alternatives, and fuel.

JUSTIFICATION:

Marijuana, although listed as a schedule 1 drug, is proven to have many beneficial uses to patients suffering from diseases like arthritis, muscular sclerosis, cancer, and other ailments. Marijuana is a much safer alternative to drugs like alcohol and tobacco that are already legal. The underground marijuana trade is an industry that generates millions of dollars every year and the state spends hundreds of thousands of dollars in law enforcement to no effect. The government should take advantage of the easy tax revenue that would be generated from its recreational use, medicinal use, and the production of hemp and hemp bi-products.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

This bill will generate a large amount of tax revenue as well as generate business for small farmers. It would stimulate small businesses in Maine by allowing farmers to grow hemp and marijuana which they could sell to other businesses. It would also generate tourism by attracting people who would travel here to purchase marijuana in the state.

REFERENCES:

<http://norml.org/component/zoo/category/norml-report-on-us-domestic-marijuana-production>

<http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t4382005.pdf>

<http://www.informationdistillery.com/hemp.htm>

BILL SUMMARY

The purpose of this bill is to legalize marijuana in all forms and for all purposes. This includes hemp production, medicinal marijuana use, and recreational use.



State YMCA of Maine **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



BILL # 2012 – 608

Bill Sponsor: Sutton Burr

Bill Co-Sponsor(s): Josh Scoville

School / Club / YMCA: Machias Memorial High School **Endorsed By:** Susan Albee

Referred to the committee on: Natural Resources

An Act Relating To:

Allowing one more tip-up on lakes with 5 tip-ups during the Ice Fishing season

Be it enacted by the State YMCA of Maine's 2012 Youth in Government Program as follows:

- SECTION 1:** The State of Maine will allow at least one more ice fishing trap on each lake
- SECTION 2:** Game Wardens may inform people on the lakes if they are allowed to use more than five tip-ups each
- SECTION 3:** People may find this in the Maine Fisheries and Wildlife law book.

STATEMENT OF FACT:

The following lakes and ponds were stocked with the larger fall yearling trout that ranged between 12 and 14 inches and will make for some fun action through the ice: Indian Lake in Whiting, Keenes Lake in Calais, Goulding Lake in Robbinston, Vining Lake in Cooper, Montegail Pond in T 19 MD, Craig Pond in Orland, Jacob-Buck Pond in Bucksport, Bubble Pond in Bar Harbor, Eagle Lake in Bar Harbor, Lower Hadlock Pond in Northeast Harbor and Round Pond in Somesville. Indian Lake in Whiting and Keenes Lake in Calais were stocked with 50 large retired brood stock brook trout ranging in size between 2 and 3 pounds.

JUSTIFICATION:

Many people feel that they are not catching as many fish with the limit of traps each of them can have on each lake. If the limit of traps people can use each on lakes that already allow 5 traps were risen by one trap each persons chances would greatly rise percent wise. More people would want to go ice fishing if they knew their chances were better

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

: Changing the law: \$5,000.00
Creating new Law Books: \$2,000.00
Distribution of Law Books: \$1,000.00
Sum: \$8,000.00

REFERENCES:

<https://www.maine.gov/ifw/>
<http://www.mainerec.com/icefish.asp?Category=75&PageNum=75>

BILL SUMMARY

This bill would allow one more tip-up on lakes with 5 tip-ups during the ice fishing season.



State YMCA of Maine
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BILL # 2012 – 708

Bill Sponsor: Angela Hallowell

School / Club / YMCA: Presque Isle High School

Referred to the committee on: Transportation

Bill Co-Sponsor(s): Jonas Kinney

Endorsed By: James York

An Act Relating To:

Penalty for OUI

Be it enacted by the State YMCA of Maine's 2012 Youth in Government Program as follows:

1. **SECTION 1:** A Person convicted of driving with a BAC of 0.08 or greater must have a distinct
2. license plate on his or her own vehicle.
3. **SECTION 2:** The license plate must have only 6 characters, and all must be numbers.
4. **SECTION 3:** Numbers must be printed in red.
5. **SECTION 4:** License plate will remain effective for 1 year after conviction.
6. **SECTION 5:** Offenders must pay a \$100.00 fee to obtain license plate and \$20 registration fee.

STATEMENT OF FACT:

Between 2007-2009 there were almost 500 alcohol related fatalities in Maine, with over 150 of those involving those with a BAC of over .08%.

JUSTIFICATION:

A drunk driver puts innocent lives at risk. Great steps should be taken to stop this, so he or she must not be punished lightly for this crime. These license plates will not only serve as reminder to the offender, but also other drivers on the road who may be in harms way.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

In one year, Maine would gain \$966,640 based on the 2007 statistic of 8,097 OUI convictions and a \$7,000 printing fee.

REFERENCES:

http://www. DUI-USA.DRINKDRIVING.ORG/Maine_ DUI_ DRUNKDRIVING_ STATISTICS.PHP
<http://www. ALCOHOLALERT.COM/DRUNK-DRIVING-STATISTICS-MAINE.HTML>

BILL SUMMARY

Any person caught for driving drunk must have an indicative license plate.

Bill Summary: