

OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW

Work Session Date: March 8, 2013

To: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Taxation

From: Elizabeth Cooper, Legislative Analyst

LD 318, An Act To Establish a Sales Tax Holiday for Purchases Made during the Month of January

Summary: This bill provides a sales tax holiday during the month of January for items of tangible personal property with a price of \$1,000 or less.

Public Hearing:

Proponents

- The sponsor presented the bill and included in his written testimony data on the sales tax.
- A representative of the Retail Association of Maine testified in support of the bill.
- *Major points:* stimulates retail at slowest time; more competitive with no sales tax states such as NH; doesn't give tax break to visitors – fewer come to Maine at that time.

Opposed - None

NFNA - None

Similar bills: There have been many “sale tax holiday” bills over the years including “holidays” for back-to-school, energy efficient appliances, a weekend in February and Columbus Day weekend.

Fiscal Information: The preliminary fiscal impact statement is provided on the back of this analysis sheet. Also, the text of the bill and any fiscal information available may be viewed online at: www.mainelegislature.org/LawMakerWeb/search.asp.