

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 312

S. P. 135

In Senate, February 2, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

Presented by Mr. Collins of Knox.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Permit Waiver of Facilities for the Handicapped in Certain Buildings.

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

25 MRSA § 2703, sub-§ 4, as amended by PL 1977, c. 33, is further amended by adding at the end a new sentence to read:

A judicial facility shall not be subject to this subsection if the administrative authority and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court agree that these facilities are rarely utilized by the handicapped and that the cost of complying with the standards of construction are not warranted by that limited use.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill allows the waiver of the special construction requirements to provide facilities for the handicapped in judicial facilities that are being renovated. The waiver requires the Chief Justice and the Director of the Bureau of Public Improvements to agree that these requirements are not appropriate because of their cost and limited usage. A survey of repairs and improvements of judicial facilities indicates that 1/3 of the budget would have to be used to meet these standards. Because some of these facilities are so seldomly used by the handicapped, that expense would be wasted.