

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

---

Legislative Document

No. 1351

---

H.P. 874

House of Representatives, April 1, 2025

### **An Act to Require Antisemitism to Be Considered as Motivation When Determining a Violation of a Criminal or Civil Law**

---

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 28, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative GRIFFIN of Levant.

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

**Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4553, sub-§1-I is enacted to read:**

**1-I. Antisemitism.** "Antisemitism" has the same meaning as the nonlegally binding working definition of "antisemitism" adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Plenary in Bucharest, Romania on May 26, 2016.

**Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §4554, sub-§5 is enacted to read:**

**5. Antisemitism as motive.** When determining whether a violation of this Act or any criminal or civil law has occurred, an assessment of whether antisemitism was a motive, if relevant, for that violation must be made.

## SUMMARY

This bill defines "antisemitism" as the nonlegally binding working definition of "antisemitism" adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Plenary in Bucharest, Romania on May 26, 2016. The bill also amends the Maine Human Rights Act to require that, when determining whether a violation of the Maine Human Rights Act or any criminal or civil law has occurred, an assessment of whether antisemitism was a motive, if relevant, for that violation must be made.