

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1593

H.P. 1051

House of Representatives, April 10, 2025

An Act to Require Certain Public Entities to Define Their Use of the Term "Equity"

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and
Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, MINGO of Calais, POIRIER of Skowhegan, SMITH
of Palermo, STROUT of Harrington, TUELL of East Machias, WADSWORTH of Hiram.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4635** is enacted to read:

3 **§4635. Explanation of equity-based decisions**

4 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, when a public entity or an
5 educational institution states that it is taking an action, including, without limitation, the
6 adoption of a policy, awarding of a contract or conducting its hiring practices, to advance
7 equity, that public entity or educational institution shall specify and make available on its
8 publicly accessible website the definition of "equity" that the public entity or educational
9 institution is using to make that decision and the metrics being used to measure equity.

10 **SUMMARY**

11 This bill requires the State or a local government or other political subdivision or
12 educational institution when making a decision based on advancing equity, the entity
13 making that decision must provide on a publicly accessible website the definition of
14 "equity" used to make the decision and the metrics used by that entity to measure equity.