

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
106TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT" B " to H.P. 1665, L.D. 2058,  
Bill, "AN ACT to Prevent Physically Handicapped  
Discrimination under Human Rights Act."

Amend said Bill by inserting after section 12  
the following:

'Sec. 13. R.S., T. 5, §4593, additional. Title  
5 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new  
section 4593 to read as follows:

§4593. Existing facilities

1. Public accommodations. Nothing in section  
4591 or 4592 related to equal access to public  
accommodations or indirectly denying access to the  
physical handicap shall apply to existing structures,  
structures under construction or proposed construction  
submitted for bid before September 1, 1974. For any  
building or facility constructed specifically as a  
place of public accommodation on or after September 1,  
1974 there shall be:

A. At least one public walk not less than  
40 inches wide with a slope not greater than  
one foot rise in 12 feet leading directly to  
a primary entrance;

B. A door at such primary entrance with a  
clear opening of no less than 32 inches and op-  
erated by a single effort. If doors at a  
primary entrance are in a series, they shall  
have a space between them of not less than 84  
inches measured from their closed positions;  
and each shall open in the same direction so  
that swings do not conflict;

C. Rest room facilities should have at least  
one stall that is not less than 3 feet wide,  
5 feet in depth, a 32-inch wide door that swings  
out, handrails on each side mounted 33 inches  
from the floor, and a water closet with a seat  
20 inches high;

*(Filing No. H-683)*

D. Doors that are not intended for normal use, and that are dangerous if a blind person were to enter or exit by them, shall be made identifiable to touch by knurling the handle or knob.

In any building designed and constructed specifically for public housing or accommodations, the bathroom facilities and all accompanying fixtures shall be arranged to permit access and use by a person in a wheelchair in at least 1% of the living units. Such units shall be constructed on ground level and shall comply with paragraph C.

2. Places of employment. Existing places of employment or structures to be used for this purpose currently under construction or where proposed construction has been submitted for bid before September 1, 1974, are exempt from the requirements of this chapter as they relate to accessibility for the physical handicap. For any building or facility constructed specifically as a place of employment on or after September 1, 1974, or when the estimated total costs for remodeling or enlarging an existing building exceeds \$100,000, the public accommodation provisions relating to walks, entries, rest room facilities, drinking fountains, telephones and doors shall apply.'

Further amend said Bill by renumbering section 13 to be section 14.

#### Statement of Fact

This amendment mandates that all public accommodations built after September 1, 1974 shall provide a facility for those with a physical handicap.

Filed by Mr. Ault of Wayne.

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