

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 580

H. P. 435

House of Representatives, February 4, 1975

Referred to Committee on Human Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Lewin of Augusta.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Establishing a Symbol to Indicate Buildings and Facilities
Accessible to Handicapped and Elderly Persons.

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

Sec. 1. Adoption of symbol. The wheelchair symbol adopted by Rehabilitation International's World Congress in 1969 shall be the state symbol indicating buildings and facilities accessible to handicapped and elderly persons.

Sec. 2. Uniformity. In the interest of uniformity, it shall be the only symbol for display in or on public or private buildings and facilities which qualify for its use as determined by the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped or its duly authorized representative. Application for display of the symbol shall be addressed to the Secretary of State who shall obtain and keep on file such symbol.

Sec. 3. Usage. To preserve the meaning of the symbol and avoid confusing the public-at-large, the symbol shall be correctly displayed at all times. Furthermore, it shall never be associated with commercial promotion of any product or service; and under no circumstances shall the design of the symbol be changed or altered.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The wheelchair symbol is now in use throughout the world, and is recognized by handicapped persons as having special meaning for them. Its prop-

er use and display will result in the general public being more aware of the problem that design barriers present to the handicapped and elderly. An example of the use of the wheelchair symbol is shown below:

