

STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 107TH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 889, L.D. 1064, Bill, "AN ACT to Establish a Statute of Limitations with Regard to the Negligence of Design Professionals."

Amend said Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

'<u>14 MRSA §752-A</u> is enacted to read: §752-A. Design professionals

All civil actions for malpractice or professional negligence against architects or engineers duly licensed or registered under Title 32 shall be commenced within 4 years after such malpractice or negligence is discovered, but in no event shall any such action be commenced more than 10 years after the substantial completion of the construction contract or the substantial completion of the services provided, if a construction contract is not involved. The limitation periods provided by this section shall not apply if the parties have entered into a valid contract which by its terms provides for limitation periods other than those set forth in this section.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to require that all civil actions for malpractice or professional negligence against architects and engineers be commenced within 4 years after such malpractice or negligence is discovered and that in no event shall such an action be commenced more than 10 years after the substantial completion of the contract or services in question. This mendment also states that the limitation periods COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to H.P. 889, L.D. 1064

provided in the bill being amended shall not apply if contrary periods are included in a valid contract between the parties.

-2-

Reported by the Committee on Judiciary.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House. 5/29/75

(Filing No. H-526)