

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1515**

S. P. 488

In Senate, March 30, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

Presented by Senator Farley of York.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

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**AN ACT to Prohibit Loitering for the Purpose of Engaging in a Criminal Offense.**

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

17-A MRSA § 853-B is enacted to read:

**§ 853-B. Loitering for purposes of committing a criminal act**

1. A person is guilty of loitering for purposes of committing a criminal act if he remains or wanders about in a public place for the purpose of committing any crime or repeatedly beckons to, or repeatedly stops, or repeatedly attempts to stop, or repeatedly attempts to engage passersby in conversation, or repeatedly stops or attempts to stop motor vehicles or repeatedly interferes with the free passage of other persons, for the purposes of committing any crime.

2. Loitering for purposes of committing a criminal act is a Class E crime.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to make any person who remains or wanders about a public place for the purpose of committing any crime or repeatedly stops or beckons passersby for the purpose of committing a crime guilty of a Class E crime. This bill will help prevent loitering for criminal purposes which is becoming a problem in some areas of Maine.