

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2023

H.P. 1538

House of Representatives, January 31, 1984

Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

Reference to the Committee on Aging, Retirement and Veterans is suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Handy of Lewiston.

Cosponsors: Representative Ketover of Portland, Senator Hayes of Penobscot and Representative Hickey of Augusta.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOUR

**AN ACT to Remove the Retirement
Age Restriction for Trustees of the
University of Maine.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, under the original charter of the University of Maine, trustees must retire at 70 years of age; and

Whereas, that provision of the original charter has never been changed; and

Whereas, it is contrary to the expressed policy of the Legislature to discriminate against persons based on age; and

1 Whereas, in 1977, the Legislature enacted laws
2 prohibiting mandatory retirement ages in public em-
3 ployment; and

4 Whereas, there are currently or will soon be sev-
5 eral vacancies on the Board of Trustees; and

6 Whereas, continuation of the current mandatory
7 retirement age will deny the service of many quali-
8 fied and experienced persons to the Board of Trust-
9 ees; and

10 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,
11 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of
12 the Constitution of Maine and require the following
13 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-
14 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
15 therefore,

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

18 P&SL 1865, c. 532, §4, 11th sentence, as enacted
19 by PL 1973, c. 625, §280, is repealed as follows:

20 **Trustees shall retire on reaching the age of 70.**

21 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited
22 in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when ap-
23 proved.

24 STATEMENT OF FACT

25 The purpose of this bill is to remove the retire-
26 ment age for University of Maine trustees. Current-
27 ly, trustees are required to retire at the age of 70
28 years. In 1977, the Legislature enacted a law that
29 prohibited mandatory retirement ages for employees in
30 the public sector. The Private and Special Law gov-
31 erning the University of Maine, however, was not
32 amended with respect to the retirement age for trust-
33 ees of the university. This bill makes the Universi-
34 ty of Maine retirement provision for trustees con-
35 sistent with the state law.

36 5260011184