

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 2039

6
7 H.P. 1549

House of Representatives, February 2, 1984

8 Reference to the Committee on Judiciary is suggested. Ordered printed
9 and sent up for concurrence.

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Bell of Paris.

11 Cosponsors: Representative Andrews of Portland and Senator Trafton of
Androscoggin.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOUR
16

17 AN ACT to Include Handicapped Persons as
18 a Protected Group under the Maine Human Rights
19 Act.
20

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

23 Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4552, as repealed and replaced
24 by PL 1975, c. 770, §28, is amended to read:

25 §4552. Policy

26 To protect the public health, safety and welfare,
27 it is declared to be the policy of this State to keep
28 continually in review all practices infringing on the
29 basic human right to a life with dignity, and the
30 causes of such practices, so that corrective measures
31 may, where possible, be promptly recommended and im-
32 plemented, and to prevent discrimination in employ-
33 ment, housing or access to public accommodations on
34 account of race, color, sex, physical or mental hand-

1 icap, religion, ancestry or national origin and in
2 employment, discrimination on account of age; and to
3 prevent discrimination in the extension of credit on
4 account of age, race, color, sex, marital status, re-
5 ligious, ancestry ~~or~~, national origin and physical
6 handicap.

7 Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §4595, as repealed and replaced
8 by PL 1975, c. 770, §40, is amended to read:

9 §4595. Right to freedom from discrimination solely
10 on the basis of age, race, color, sex, mari-
11 tal status, ancestry, religion, national ori-
12 gin or physical handicap in any credit
13 transaction

14 The opportunity for every individual to be ex-
15 tended credit without discrimination solely because
16 of any one or more of the following factors: Age;
17 race; color; sex; marital status; ancestry; religion
18 ~~or~~; national origin; or physical handicap is recog-
19 nized as and declared to be a civil right.

20 Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §4596, as amended by PL 1975, c.
21 770, §41, is further amended to read:

22 §4596. Unlawful credit extension discrimination

23 It ~~shall be~~ is unlawful credit discrimination for
24 any creditor to refuse the extension of credit to any
25 person solely on the basis of any one or more of the
26 following factors: Age; race; color; sex; marital
27 status; ancestry; religion ~~or~~; national origin; or
28 physical handicap in any credit transaction. It
29 ~~shall be~~ is not be unlawful credit discrimination to
30 comply with the terms and conditions of any bona fide
31 group credit life, accident and health insurance
32 plan, for a financial institution extending credit to
33 a married person to require both the husband and the
34 wife to sign a note and a mortgage and to deny credit
35 to persons under the age of 18 or to consider a
36 person's age in determining the terms upon which
37 credit will be extended.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill amends the Maine Human Rights Act to make it illegal to deny credit solely on the basis of physical handicap.

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