

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

	ONE HUNDRED AND 1	HIRTEENTH	LEGISLATURE	
Legislat	ive Document		NO .	1960
Legislativ Refer suggested Presented Cospc	House of R oved for introduction ve Council pursuant to ence to the Committee and ordered printed. by Representative DIA onsored by Senators PE I and Representative F	by a majorit o Joint Rule on State an EDWIN H. MOND of Bang RKINS of Han	26. d Local Governm PERT, Clerk or. cock, CLARK of	ent
		R OF MAINE		
	AN ACT to Ame Construction Gender-Neut Maine	to Permit 1	Use of	
Be it en Collows:	acted by the Peop	ple of the	State of M	aine as
Sec. .985, c.	1. 1 MRSA §71 737, Pt. C, §1, is	. , sub-§7, s repealed.	as amended	by PL
Sec.	2. 1 MRSA §71, st	u b-§7-A is	enacted to r	ead:
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1		7-A.	Gend	ler. Wo	Words of		one gende		apply	equally	
2	to	the	other	genders	5, u	nles	s t	he con	text c	otherwise	
3	ind	icate	s.								

4	Α.	When	ever	reas	sonable	≥,	as deter	mined	by	the
5	Reviso	or o	f Sta	tute	s, no	uns	rather	than	pronc	ouns
6							persons	in	order	to
7	avoid	gend	er ide	entif	icatio	on.				

B. In preparing any legislation which amends a section or larger division of the Maine Revised 8 9 10 Statutes, the Revisor of Statutes shall be 11 authorized to change any masculine or feminine 12 gender word to a gender-neutral word when it is 13 that the statute is not clear exclusively 14 applicable to members of one sex. The Revisor of 15 Statutes shall not otherwise alter the sense, 16 meaning or effect of any statute.

STATEMENT OF FACT

18 The purpose of this bill is to encourage the use 19 of nonsexist language by clarifying the rule of 20 construction in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, 21 section 71 and also by requiring that every section 22 which is amended should be revised to reflect the 23 Legislature's policy of gender-neutral language.

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