

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 2017

H.P. 1483 House of Representatives, January 12, 1988
Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested
and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative JALBERT of Lisbon.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Requiring that Curb Ramps be
Constructed in Accordance with the American
National Standards Institute Standards.

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

7 23 MRSA §706, as amended by PL 1975, c. 94, is
8 further amended to read:

9 §706. Curbs

1 1. Location or construction. The Department of
2 Transportation shall develop or approve standards for
3 the location or construction of curbs on each side of
4 a way in the business district or area as defined by
5 the department, of any municipality for which curbs
6 have been prescribed. Such standards shall provide
7 for the location and construction of ramps so as to
8 allow reasonable access to the crosswalks for
9 physically handicapped and elderly people. These
10 standards shall be adopted to fully implement the
11 specifications in the American National Standards
12 Institute publication "Specifications for Making
13 Buildings and Facilities Accessible to and Usable by
14 Physically Handicapped People" (ANSI A 117.1, 1986).

15 2. Application. Standards set for curb ramping
16 under subsection 1 shall not apply to any existing
17 curb on October 3, 1973; but shall apply, to the
18 extent reasonable, to all new curb construction and to
19 all replacement curbs constructed in order to allow
20 reasonable access to crosswalks to any new
21 construction or reconstruction commenced after October
22 1, 1988.

23 3. Physically handicapped; adequate ramping.
24 Adequate and reasonable access shall be provided for
25 the safe and convenient movement of physically
26 handicapped persons, including those in wheelchairs,
27 across curbs constructed or replaced on or after
28 July 1, 1976 October 1, 1988, at all pedestrian
29 crosswalks throughout the State.

STATEMENT OF FACT

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The current law requires that the Department of Transportation adopt standards for curb ramps but does not require that these standards be consistent with any national standard for handicapped accessibility. This bill requires that any new construction or replacement of curb ramps be done in accordance with the most current national standards for handicapped accessibility as set forth by the American National Standards Institute.

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