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Legislative Document

No. 2078

S.P. 814

In Senate, January 4, 1990

Reported by Senator ESTES of York for the Study Commission on Manufactured Housing pursuant to Private & Special Law 1987, chapter 139. Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed

pursuant to Joint Rule 18.

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

An Act to Prevent Retaliatory Evictions of Mobile Park Tenants.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: 2 10 MRSA §9097, sub-§1-A is enacted to read: 4 1-A. Retaliation. The court may not order the termination 6 of any tenancy if the tenant proves that the eviction action is primarily in retaliation for: 8 The tenant's participation in establishing, or Α. membership in, an organization concerned with 10 landlord-tenant relationships; or 12 B. The tenant's assertion of any right under this chapter. 14 16 STATEMENT OF FACT 18 This bill is a unanimous final recommendation of 20 the Manufactured Housing Commission, established by Private and 22 Special Law 1987, chapter 139. 24 The bill clarifies that mobile home park tenants are protected from evictions based on retaliation for organizing or 26 belonging to a tenants' organization, or asserting any right provided by laws governing mobile home parks, such as the warranty of habitability. A similar protection is provided 28 tenants in other forms of rental housing in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 14, section 6001, subsection 3. Unlike the Title 30 14 provision, this bill requires a tenant to show that the 32 eviction was retaliatory in nature. There is no presumption of retaliation. 34

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