

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 427

S.P. 172

In Senate, February 7, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GAUVREAU of Androscoggin

Cosponsored by Senator CLARK of Cumberland, Representative TREAT of Gardiner and Representative KETTERER of Madison.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

An Act Relating to Discrimination in Membership in Golf and Country Clubs.

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

5 MRSA §4553, sub-§8, as amended by PL 1987, c. 478, §2, is further amended to read:

8. Place of public accommodation. "Place of public accommodation" means any establishment which in fact caters to, or offers its goods, facilities or services to, or solicits or accepts patronage from, the general public; and it includes, but is not limited to: Inns, taverns, roadhouses, hotels, whether conducted for the entertainment or accommodation of transient guests or of those seeking health, recreation or rest, restaurant, eating houses or any place where food is sold for consumption on the premises; buffets, saloons, barrooms or any store, park or enclosure where spirituous or malt liquors are sold; ice cream parlors, confectioneries, soda fountains and all stores where beverages of any kind are retailed for consumption on the premises; retail stores and establishments; dispensaries, clinics, hospitals, rest rooms, bathhouses, barber shops, beauty parlors, theatres, motion picture houses, music halls, airdromes, roof gardens, race courses, skating rinks, amusement and recreation parks, fairs, bowling alleys, golf courses, golf clubs, country clubs, gymnasiums, shooting galleries, billiard and pool parlors, swimming pools, seashore accommodations and boardwalks, public libraries, garages and gasoline stations; all public conveyances operated on land, water or in the air as well as the stations and terminals thereof; public halls and public elevators of buildings occupied by 2 or more tenants or by the owner and one or more tenants; and educational institutions.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill specifically names golf clubs and country clubs as places of public accommodation. It is a violation of the Maine Human Rights Act to discriminate in the provision of public accommodations on the basis of race or color, sex, physical or mental handicap, religion, ancestry or national origin. This bill makes it illegal for golf clubs and country clubs to discriminate.