

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 430

S.P. 175

In Senate, February 7, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CONLEY of Cumberland
Cosponsored by Representative STEVENS of Bangor, Senator GILL of Cumberland and
Representative O'GARA of Westbrook.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Prevent Discrimination.



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

2 Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4552, as amended by PL 1989, c. 245, §1, is
4 further amended to read:

6 **§4552. Policy**

8 To protect the public health, safety and welfare, it is
10 declared to be the policy of this State to keep continually in
12 review all practices infringing on the basic human right to a
14 life with dignity, and the causes of these practices, so that
16 corrective measures may, where possible, be promptly recommended
18 and implemented, and to prevent discrimination in employment,
20 housing or access to public accommodations on account of race,
22 color, sex, sexual orientation, physical or mental handicap,
religion, ancestry or national origin; and in employment,
discrimination on account of age and in housing because of
familial status; and to prevent discrimination in the extension
of credit on account of age, race, color, sex, sexual
orientation, marital status, religion, ancestry or national
origin; and to prevent discrimination in education on account of
sex or physical or mental handicap.

24 Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §4553, sub-§9-A is enacted to read:

26 9-A. Sexual orientation. "Sexual orientation" means having
28 a preference for heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality,
having a history of that preference or being identified with that
preference.

30 Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §4553, sub-§10, ¶E, as amended by PL 1983, c.
32 578, §2, is further amended to read:

34 E. In determining whether any person is acting as an agent
36 or employee of another person so-as to make such the other
38 person responsible for his that person's acts, the question
of whether the specific acts performed were actually
authorized or subsequently ratified shall is not be
controlling; and

40 Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §4553, sub-§10, ¶F, as enacted by PL 1983, c.
42 578, §2, is amended to read:

44 F. Unlawful educational discrimination as defined and
46 limited by subchapter V-B; and

48 Sec. 5. 5 MRSA §4553, sub-§10, ¶G is enacted to read:

50 G. Discrimination in employment, housing, public
accommodations and credit on the basis of sexual
orientation, except that a religious corporation,
52 association or organization is exempt from these provisions.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of this bill is to extend to all citizens regardless of their sexual orientation the same civil rights protections now guaranteed to citizens on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin and physical or mental handicap. Discrimination in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations and credit would be prohibited.

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