

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 748

H.P. 520

House of Representatives, February 21, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

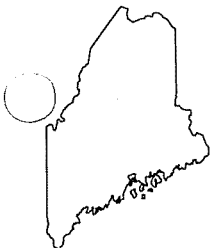
Presented by Representative MORRISON of Bangor.

Cosponsored by Representative GRAHAM of Houlton and Representative GARLAND of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act Related to Theft of Services for Rental Property.



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

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17-A MRSA §357, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1989, c. 138 is further amended to read:

3. As used in this section, "services" includes, but is not necessarily limited to, labor, professional service, public utility and transportation service, ski lift service, restaurant, hotel, motel, tourist cabin, rooming house and like accommodations, the accommodations retained by a tenant holding possession after the expiration or termination of a tenancy, the supplying of equipment, tools, vehicles or trailers for temporary use, telephone, telegraph, cable television or computer service, gas, electricity, water or steam, admission to entertainment, exhibitions, sporting events or other events or services for which a charge is made.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill amends the Maine Criminal Code to make it clear that the crime of theft of services may be committed by a person renting property who holds onto possession of the property beyond the term of the lease or other period of the tenancy. Under this bill if the person retains possession after the expiration or termination of the tenancy, knowing that to do so is to obtain a service available only for compensation, by a means designed to avoid due payment for the service, the person has committed the crime of theft of services.