

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

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Legislative Document

No. 1822

H.P. 1254

House of Representatives, May 8, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative BOUTILIER of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Senator BERUBE of Androscoggin, Senator HOLLOWAY of Lincoln and Representative FARNSWORTH of Hallowell.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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**An Act to Allow Admissible Evidence Concerning the Physical or  
Sexual Assault or Abuse of a Minor.**

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

4 16 MRSA §154-A is enacted to read:

6 §154-A. Evidence; criminal law

8 In a prosecution for a crime involving the physical or  
10 sexual assault or abuse of a minor, evidence of similar acts by  
12 the defendant toward the same or another minor is not admissible  
14 to prove the character of the defendant in order to show that the  
16 defendant acted in conformity with those acts but is admissible  
18 to show motive, opportunity, intent, preparation, plan,  
20 knowledge, identity, or absence of mistake or accident.

22 STATEMENT OF FACT

24 This bill enables the prosecution, in a case when the charge is the physical or sexual assault or abuse of a minor, to put before the factfinder evidence of similar acts by the defendant, before or after the act in question, to prove the defendant's motive, opportunity, intent, preparation, plan, knowledge, identity, absence of mistake or absence of accident.