MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 1952

H.P. 1364

House of Representatives, June 18, 1991

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27. Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative KILKELLY of Wiscasset.
Cosponsored by Representative PARADIS of Augusta, Senator SUMMERS of Cumberland and Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act Regarding the Crime of Prostitution.

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)



	Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
2	become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
	as emergencies; and
4	
	Whereas, recent publicity regarding the definition of
6	prostitution has made it clear that a person can engage in sexual
8	contact for compensation without fear of punishment; and Whereas, this loophole in our law allows persons to engage
10	in sexual contact for compensation as a business, which encourages disrespect for our legal system; and
12	
	Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
14	create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
16	necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,
18	
	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
20 22	17-A MRSA §851, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1989, c. 401, Pt. B, §3, is further amended to read:
24	1. "Prostitution" means engaging in, or agreeing to engage in, or offering to engage in a sexual act, as defined in section
26	251, or sexual contact, as defined in section 251, in return for a pecuniary benefit to be received by the person engaging in
28	prostitution or a 3rd person;
30	Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.
32	predicte, this act cakes effect when approved.
34	STATEMENT OF FACT
36	This bill amends the definition of prostitution to include "sexual contact." It corrects a problem created by a loophole in
38	the law.