

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 765

H.P. 574

House of Representatives, February 4, 1997

**An Act to Prohibit the Use of Polygraph Tests by Employers in the Hiring Process.**

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Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative MUSE of South Portland.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: JONES of Bar Harbor, O'BRIEN of Augusta, TOBIN of Dexter.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §597-A** is enacted to read:

6 **§597-A. Polygraph test as condition of employment**

8 An employer or an agent of an employer may not require a  
10 prospective employee, as a condition of consideration for  
12 employment or as a condition of employment or promotion, to  
14 submit to a polygraph test. For the purposes of this section,  
"polygraph test" means the use of an instrument that  
simultaneously records changes in physiological processes, such  
as heartbeat, blood pressure and respiration, to detect possible  
deception during an interrogation.

16 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill prohibits employers from requiring prospective  
20 employees to take polygraph tests as part of the hiring process  
or promotion.