

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 892

S.P. 287

In Senate, February 20, 2003

An Act To Prohibit Discrimination in Housing

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 STRIMLING of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative CUMMINGS of Portland and
Senators: DAMON of Hancock, MAYO of Sagadahoc, PENDLETON of Cumberland,
Representatives: BLISS of South Portland, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor, NORBERT of Portland,
SIMPSON of Auburn.

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

2

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4553, sub-§6, as corrected by RR 1999, c. 2,
4 §2, is amended to read:

6

6. Housing accommodation. "Housing accommodation" includes
any building or structure or portion thereof, or any parcel of
8 land, developed or undeveloped, which that is occupied, or is
intended to be occupied or to be developed for occupancy, for
10 residential purposes, excepting:

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~~A.--The rental of a one-family unit of a 2-family dwelling,
one unit of which is occupied by the owner;~~

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~~B.--The rental of not more than 4 rooms of a one-family
16 dwelling which is occupied by the owner; or~~

18

C. The rental of any dwelling owned, controlled or operated
for other than a commercial purpose, by a religious
20 corporation to its membership unless such membership is
restricted on account of race, color or national origin.

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SUMMARY

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Current law prohibits unlawful discrimination in the sale,
rental, lease or management of housing accommodation. The term
28 "housing accommodation" does not currently include the rental of
a one-family unit if one unit is owner-occupied or the rental of
30 4 or fewer rooms of a one-family dwelling that is
owner-occupied. This bill eliminates those exclusions.