MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2006

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Attorney General's Working Group Regarding Sentencing Factors for Crimes against Persons Who Are Homeless

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

2   **Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §1151, sub-§8, ¶B,** as enacted by PL 1995, c. 149, §1, is
3   further amended to read:

4   B.   The selection by the defendant of the person against whom the crime was
5   committed or of the property that was damaged or otherwise affected by the crime
6   because of the race, color, religion, sex, ancestry, national origin, physical or mental
7   disability ~~or~~ sexual orientation <u>or homelessness</u> of that person or of the owner or
8   occupant of that property.

9   **SUMMARY**

10   This bill implements the recommendations of the Attorney General's working group
11   regarding the advisability of implementing aggravating sentencing factors for crimes
12   against persons who are homeless, which was established pursuant to Public Law 2005,
13   chapter 393. The bill proposes to amend the purpose section of the general sentencing
14   provisions of the Criminal Code by adding homelessness to the list of actors like the age,
15   religion and sexual orientation of a victim that a court considers in determining the
16   gravity of an offense in sentencing.