

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 1027

S.P. 344

March 6, 2007

**An Act To Clarify the Definition of "Physical or Mental Disability"
in the Maine Human Rights Act**

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 MILLS of Somerset.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4553, sub-§7-A**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 99, §2, is repealed
3 and the following enacted in its place:

4 **7-A. Physical or mental disability.** "Physical or mental disability" means any
5 physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of a person's major
6 life activities.

7 **SUMMARY**

8 This bill amends the definition of "physical or mental disability" in the Maine Human
9 Rights Act to mean a condition that substantially limits one or more major life activities,
10 making the definition consistent with federal law and returning the definition to the one
11 used by the Maine Human Rights Commission before the Maine Supreme Judicial
12 Court's decision, Whitney v. Wal-Mart, 895 A.2d 309 (Me. 2006).