

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 512

S.P. 173

In Senate, February 9, 2017

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**An Act To Prohibit a Person under 18 Years of Age from Being  
Charged with the Crime of Engaging in Prostitution**

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Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator VOLK of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Senators: DIAMOND of Cumberland, ROSEN of Hancock, Representatives: GERRISH of Lebanon, GUERIN of Glenburn, HERRICK of Paris, TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §853-A, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 476, §29, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 1. A person who is 18 years of age or older is guilty of engaging in prostitution if:

5 A. The person engages in prostitution as defined in section 851. Violation of this  
6 paragraph is a Class E crime, except that the sentencing alternative may include only  
7 the penalties provided in section 1301; or

8 B. The person violates paragraph A and, at the time of the offense, the person has  
9 one or more prior convictions under this section or for engaging in substantially  
10 similar conduct to that contained in this section in another jurisdiction. Section 9-A  
11 governs the use of prior convictions when determining a sentence, except that, for the  
12 purposes of this paragraph, the date of the prior conviction may not precede the  
13 commission of the offense by more than 2 years. Violation of this paragraph is a  
14 Class D crime.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill prohibits minors from being charged with the crime of engaging in  
17 prostitution.