MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 974

H.P. 729

House of Representatives, February 26, 2019

An Act To Amend the Penalties for Engaging in Prostitution

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

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

R(+ B. Hunt

Presented by Representative WARREN of Hallowell. Cosponsored by Representative: COREY of Windham.

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

- **Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §853-A, sub-§1, ¶B,** as amended by PL 2007, c. 476, §29, is further amended to read:
 - B. The person violates paragraph A and, at the time of the offense, the person has one or more prior convictions under this section or for engaging in substantially similar conduct to that contained in this section in another jurisdiction. Section 9-A governs the use of prior convictions when determining a sentence, except that, for the purposes of this paragraph, the date of the prior conviction may not precede the commission of the offense by more than 2 years. Violation of this paragraph is a Class $\underline{\bf D}$ $\underline{\bf E}$ crime.

11 SUMMARY

 This bill amends the penalty provision for the crime of engaging in prostitution. For a first offense, the bill retains the current law designation of the crime as a Class E crime. For a 2nd or subsequent conviction within 2 years of engaging in prostitution, the bill changes the designation from a Class D crime to a Class E crime.