

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 1871

H.P. 1381

House of Representatives, January 5, 2022

**Resolve, Directing the Maine Human Rights Commission To Extend
Its Pilot Program To Investigate and Report on Incidents of
Harassment Due to Housing Status, Lack of Employment and Other
Issues**

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

1 **Sec. 1. Resolve 2019, c. 113, §1, amended. Resolved:** That Resolve 2019, c.
2 113, §1 is amended to read:

3 **Sec. 1. Maine Human Rights Commission pilot program to investigate and**
4 **report on incidents and complaints of harassment due to housing status, lack**
5 **of employment and other issues. Resolved:** That the Maine Human Rights
6 Commission shall, within budgeted resources, implement a ~~2-year~~ 4-year pilot program to
7 receive, review and investigate incidents and complaints of harassment due to a person's
8 lack of employment or housing status and other reports of interference with a person's
9 access to public accommodations.

10 In carrying out the pilot program, the commission shall investigate and respond to
11 incidents and complaints of harassment as set out in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5,
12 sections 4611 and 4612. The commission may use any of its powers under Title 5, section
13 4566 to carry out the pilot program. The commission may limit the scope of the pilot
14 program in the interest of efficiency.

15 The commission shall produce an interim report for submission to the Joint Standing
16 Committee on Judiciary by September 15, ~~2021~~ 2022. The commission shall produce a
17 final report for submission to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
18 jurisdiction over judiciary matters by September 15, ~~2022~~ 2023. Either report may contain
19 recommendations on changes to the pilot program or for its continuation as well as
20 suggested legislation to carry out any of the recommendations.

21 **Sec. 2. Retroactivity. Resolved:** That this resolve is retroactive to June 16, 2020.

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This resolve extends by 2 years the 2-year Maine Human Rights Commission pilot
24 program to receive, review and investigate incidents and complaints of harassment due to
25 a person's housing status and other reports of interference with a person's access to public
26 accommodations and extends the deadlines for its reports. The resolve is retroactive to
27 June 16, 2020, the effective date of Resolve 2019, chapter 113.