

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 975

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H.P. 622

House of Representatives, March 2, 2023

**An Act to Align Maine's Elevator Safety Laws with Maine Uniform  
Building and Energy Code Standards**

(EMERGENCY)

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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 "R(t) B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CROCKETT of Portland.  
Cosponsored by Representative: BRENNAN of Portland.

1           **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not  
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3           **Whereas,** today's buildings often have multiple stories and are often serviced by an  
4 elevator; and

5           **Whereas,** the ability to exit these buildings, particularly from higher floors, is  
6 important, especially in cases of evacuation by medical or emergency personnel; and

7           **Whereas,** if evacuation involves carrying a person on a stretcher, an elevator's  
8 capacity to accommodate the stretcher can be essential to the person's survival; and

9           **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within  
10 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as  
11 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
12 therefore,

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

14           **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §15228, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 70, Pt. D, §35, is  
15 further amended to read:

16           **1. Requirements.** Notwithstanding section 15205-A, whenever a passenger elevator  
17 is installed in a building being newly constructed or in a new addition that extends beyond  
18 the exterior walls of an existing building, the passenger elevator must ~~reach all levels within~~  
19 ~~the building and be of sufficient size to allow the transport of a person on an ambulance~~  
20 ~~stretcher in the fully supine position, without having to raise, lower or bend the stretcher in~~  
21 ~~any way.~~ This requirement applies to all plans approved after January 1, 2002 meet the  
22 standard established by the International Building Code, published by the International  
23 Code Council, regarding elevator car accommodations for an ambulance stretcher, as  
24 adopted in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code under Title 10, chapter 1103.  
25 The director shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. Rules  
26 adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter  
27 375, subchapter 2-A.

28           **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation  
29 takes effect when approved.

30   **SUMMARY**

31           This bill requires that, for newly constructed buildings or for new additions that extend  
32 beyond the exterior wall of an existing building, passenger elevators conform to the  
33 International Building Code standard, as adopted in the Maine Uniform Building and  
34 Energy Code, regarding elevator car accommodations for an ambulance stretcher. This bill  
35 also removes obsolete effective date language.