

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

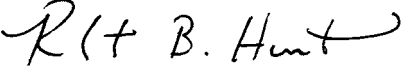
No. 1423

H.P. 919

House of Representatives, March 30, 2023

**An Act to Increase the Limits on Awards for Compensatory and
Punitive Damages Under the Maine Human Rights Act**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot and
Representatives: MOONEN of Portland, O'NEIL of Saco, ROEDER of Bangor, SHEEHAN of
Biddeford, Senators: BAILEY of York, CARNEY of Cumberland, DUSON of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4613, sub-§2, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 613, §21 and
3 affected by §29, is further amended by amending subparagraph (8), division (e) to read:

4 (e) The sum of compensatory damages awarded under this subparagraph for
5 future pecuniary losses, emotional pain, suffering, inconvenience, mental
6 anguish, loss of enjoyment of life, other nonpecuniary losses and the amount
7 of punitive damages awarded under this section may not exceed for each
8 complaining party:

9 (i) In the case of a respondent who has more than 14 and fewer than 101
10 employees in each of 20 or more calendar weeks in the current or
11 preceding calendar year, ~~\$50,000~~ \$100,000;

12 (ii) In the case of a respondent who has more than 100 and fewer than 201
13 employees in each of 20 or more calendar weeks in the current or
14 preceding calendar year, ~~\$100,000~~ \$300,000;

15 (iii) In the case of a respondent who has more than 200 and fewer than
16 501 employees in each of 20 or more calendar weeks in the current or
17 preceding calendar year, ~~\$300,000~~ \$500,000; and

18 (iv) In the case of a respondent who has more than 500 employees in each
19 of 20 or more calendar weeks in the current or preceding calendar year,
20 ~~\$500,000~~ \$1,000,000.

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill increases the maximum limits on awards for compensatory and punitive
23 damages under the Maine Human Rights Act.