

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - N I N T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 846

H. P. 560

House of Representatives, February 18, 1959

On motion by Mrs. Hendricks of Portland, reference reconsidered. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and 750 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Earles of South Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to Discrimination at Places of Public Resort or Amusement.

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

R. S., c. 137, § 50, repealed and replaced. Section 50 of chapter 137 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

‘Sec. 50. Discrimination by reason of race, color, religious creed, ancestry or national origin at places of public accommodation. No person, being the owner, lessee, proprietor, manager, superintendent, agent or employee of any place of public accommodation, resort or amusement shall directly or indirectly by himself or another, refuse, withhold from or deny to any person any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges thereof, or directly or indirectly, by himself or another, publish, issue, circulate, distribute or display in any way, any advertisement, circular, folder, letter, book, pamphlet, written or painted or printed notice or sign, of any kind or description, intended to discriminate against or actually discriminating against persons of any race, color, religious sect, creed, class, denomination, ancestry or national origin, in the full enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges offered to the general public by such places of public accommodation, resort or amusement. The production of any such advertisement, circular, folder, letter, book, pamphlet, written or painted or printed notice or sign, purporting to relate to any such place and to be made by any person being the owner, or operator or an agent or employee of said owner or operator shall be presumptive evidence in any action that the same was authorized by such person.

A place of public accommodation, resort or amusement within the meaning of this section shall be deemed to include any establishment which caters or

offers its services, facilities or goods to, or solicits patronage from the members of the general public, including but not limited to any inn, whether conducted for the entertainment, housing or lodging of transient guests, or for the benefit, use or accommodation of those seeking health, recreation or rest, any restaurant, eating house, public conveyance on land or water, bathhouse, barber shop, theater, music hall and any retail store.

Any person who shall violate any of this section or who shall aid in or incite, cause or bring about, in whole or in part, the violation of this section shall, for the first such offense, be punished by a fine of not more than \$100, or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or by both; and for each and every additional violation be punished by a fine of \$500, or imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or by both.'