

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 3, 1980 to June 19, 1981

AND AT THE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
August 3, 1981

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED AT THE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

of the
ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

1981

CHAPTER 400

S. P. 620 — L. D. 1625

AN ACT to Protect Persons with Children against Discrimination in Fair Housing.

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

14 MRSA § 6024 is enacted to read:

§ 6024. Discrimination against families with children prohibited

1. **Discrimination prohibited.** It is unlawful and opposed to public policy for any landlord to have as a condition precedent to the renting of any dwelling unit a requirement as to the number of children that the prospective tenant may have residing in the unit. A landlord may not discriminate in the price, terms, conditions or privileges of a rental agreement against an individual because the individual has a child or children who shall occupy the unit with that person. A landlord may refuse to rent a dwelling unit to a family if the size of the family, with children, would exceed the number permitted by local zoning or other municipal ordinance or reasonable standards of human health, safety or sanitation or if the dwelling unit is unsuitable for rental to a family with children under Title 22, chapter 252. A landlord subject to this section may set aside not more than 25% of his total number of rental dwelling units for occupancy by tenants without children by providing notice to the Human Rights Commission designating which specific units have been set aside for that purpose.

2. **Publicity.** It is unlawful and opposed to public policy for any landlord subject to this section to list, announce or advertise a vacancy stating that a person with children may not apply for or rent a given dwelling unit. Any such listing, announcement or advertisement is prima facie evidence of a violation of this section. This subsection shall not apply to any rental dwelling unit set aside for occupancy by tenants without children under subsection 1 or which is exempted under subsection 4.

3. **Relief.** Any violation of this section is unlawful housing discrimination under Title 5, section 4582 and any person aggrieved may assert his rights pursuant to Title 5, chapter 337.

4. **Exemptions.** This section does not apply to any tenancy for a dwelling unit which is:

A. Part of a structure containing no more than 5 dwelling units, one of which is occupied by the landlord;

B. Part of a structure containing no more than 5 dwelling units, one of which is a professional office or business;

C. Limited by and subject to superceding federal law governing dwelling units authorized, approved, financed or subsidized in whole or in part by a unit of government;

D. Part of a privately owned multi-unit structure, all units of which are occupied by or reserved for tenant households with at least one resident over age 62 in each; or

E. A separately-owned condominium unit.

5. Reservation of discretionary rights. Notwithstanding any provision of this section, a landlord may establish any criteria for occupancy that do not conflict with this section or other applicable laws and may impose limitations on the number of persons occupying any rental unit.

Effective September 18, 1981

CHAPTER 401

H. P. 881 — L. D. 1050

AN ACT to Abolish the Position of Elected County Treasurer in Aroostook County and Replace it with an Appointed Treasurer.

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

Sec. 1. 30 MRSA § 2, sub-§ 1, ¶ B, sub-¶ (2), as amended by PL 1979, c. 647, § 1, is repealed as follows:

~~(2)~~ Treasurer 6,600

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA § 601, first sentence, is amended to read:

A treasurer shall be elected for each county, **except Aroostook County**, by the legally qualified voters thereof.

Sec. 3. 30 MRSA § 601-B is enacted to read:

§ 601-B. Aroostook County; treasurer

The county commissioners of Aroostook County shall appoint a treasurer to serve at their pleasure, subject to the approval of the legislative delegation, and with such compensation as the commissioners set. The treasurer shall be qualified in matters of business administration and finance. The treasurer shall have all the authority granted to treasurers under this subchapter and be subject to all requirements of this subchapter. The treasurer shall devote his time to the