MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST REGULAR SESSION NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS SEPTEMBER 20, 2007

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

> Penmor Lithographers Lewiston, Maine 2007

grand jurors may be selected and summoned under the direction of the court at any time.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 242 H.P. 763 - L.D. 1045

An Act To Extend the Coyote Night Hunting Season

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

- **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12001, sub-§1,** as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and amended by c. 655, Pt. B, §190 and affected by §422, is further amended to read:
- 1. Open night hunting season. Notwithstanding the night hunting prohibitions in section 11206-A, there is an open season for hunting coyotes at night in all counties of the State from January 1st to April 30th June 1st.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 243 S.P. 222 - L.D. 685

An Act To Amend the Maine Human Rights Act

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

- **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4581, sub-§1,** as enacted by PL 1989, c. 245, §3, is amended to read:
- 1. Number of occupants. Nothing in this subchapter limits the applicability of any reasonable local, state or federal restrictions regarding the maximum number of occupants permitted to occupy a dwelling. Nor does any provision in this subsection subchapter regarding familial status apply with respect to housing for older persons.
- **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §4582-A, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 1991, c. 99, §18, is further amended to read:
- **1. Modifications.** For any owner, lessee, sublessee, managing agent or other person having the right to sell, rent, lease or manage a housing accommodation, or any of their agents to refuse to permit, at the expense of the a person with physical physical or mental disability, reasonable modifications of existing premises occupied or to be occupied by that person if the modifications may be necessary to give that person full enjoyment of the premises, except that, with a rental, the landlord, when it is reasonable to do so, may condition permission for a modification on the

renter's agreeing to restore the interior of the premises to the condition that existed before the modification, reasonable wear and tear excepted; or

- **Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §4582-A, sub-§2,** as enacted by PL 1989, c. 779, is amended to read:
- 2. Accommodations. For any owner, lessee, sublessee, managing agent or other person having the right to sell, rent, lease or manage a housing accommodation, or any of their agents to refuse to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices or services when those accommodations are necessary to give that person a person with physical or mental disability equal opportunity to use and enjoy the housing.
- **Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §4583,** as amended by PL 2005, c. 10, §15, is further amended to read:

§4583. Application

Nothing in this Act may be construed to prohibit or limit the exercise of the privilege of every person and the agent of any person having the right to sell, rent, lease or manage a housing accommodation to set up and enforce specifications in the selling, renting, leasing or letting or in the furnishings of facilities or services in connection with the facilities that are consistent with business necessity and are not based on the race, color, sex, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, country of ancestral originor familial status of or the receipt of public assistance payments of by any prospective or actual purchaser, lessee, tenant or occupant. Nothing in this Act may be construed to prohibit or limit the exercise of the privilege of every person and the agent of any person making loans for or offering financial assistance in the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, repair or maintenance of housing accommodations, to set standards and preferences, terms, conditions, limitations or specifications for the granting of loans or financial assistance that are consistent with business necessity and are not based on the race, color, sex, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, country of ancestral origin, or familial status of or the receipt of public assistance payments of by the applicant for a loan or financial assistance or of any existing or prospective owner, lessee, tenant or occupant of housing accommodation.

- **Sec. 5. 5 MRSA §4612, sub-§1, ¶A,** as amended by PL 1993, c. 578, §1, is further amended to read:
 - A. The commission or its delegated single commissioner or investigator shall provide an opportunity for the complainant and respondent to resolve the matter by settlement agreement prior to a determination of whether there are reasonable grounds to believe that unlawful discrimination has occurred. Evidence of conduct or statements made in compromise settlement negotiations, offers of settlement and any final agreement are