

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

December 2021

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

LD 1486 An Act To Improve Investigations of Child Sexual Abuse

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 447 amends the Maine Criminal Code by providing that a person who poses as a minor is deemed a minor for the purposes of a sex crime that has as an element or aggravating factor of the crime that the victim or person other than the actor is a minor. The law adds as conduct punishable under the crime of patronizing prostitution of a minor a new Class C crime when the person committing the crime believes that the person whose prostitution is sought is a minor. The law raises the class of the existing crime of patronizing prostitution of a person who has not in fact attained 18 years of age from a Class D crime to a Class C crime.

LD 1491 An Act To Ensure Access to and Availability of Violence Intervention Services To Reduce Domestic Violence in Maine

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 448 provides funding for the Department of Corrections, Office of Victim Services to fund partial reimbursement of certified batterers' intervention programs for indigent participant fees of \$200,000 for fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022-23, program expenses of \$62,500 for fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022-23 and training programs to sustain and expand the accessibility of certified batterers' intervention programs of \$25,000 for fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022-23.

LD 1585 An Act To Increase Privacy and Security by Regulating the Use of Facial Surveillance Systems by Departments, Public Employees and Public Officials

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 394 provides a structure for requests from state, county and municipal government agencies, public employees and public officials for facial surveillance searches and allowed uses of the results of facial surveillance searches. The law specifies the manner in which requests for searches must be made to the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police. The law continues current authority in the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to perform facial surveillance searches and to receive requests for searches. The law requires the Bureau of State Police and the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to maintain de-identified records of searches requested and performed and designates those records as public records. The law states that facial surveillance data does not, without other evidence, establish probable cause justifying arrest, search or seizure. The law includes enforcement provisions in case of a violation.

Although Public Law 2021, chapter 394 contains an effective date of October 1, 2021, it was not enacted as an emergency and takes effect on the general effective date of October 18, 2021.