



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 537

H.P. 356

House of Representatives, February 11, 2025

**An Act to Prohibit the Doxing of a Minor and to Authorize a
Related Civil Action**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

Robert B. Hunt
ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative SACHS of Freeport.
Cosponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland and
Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, DHALAC of South Portland, KUHN of Falmouth,
MOONEN of Portland, OSHER of Orono, RANA of Bangor.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 14 MRSA c. 765** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 765**

4 **DOXING OF MINOR PROHIBITED; CIVIL ACTION AUTHORIZED**

5 **§9101. Definitions**

6 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms
7 have the following meanings.

8 **1. Close relation.** "Close relation" means, with respect to a person, a current or former
9 spouse or domestic partner, parent, child, sibling, stepchild, stepparent or grandparent of
10 that person; a person who regularly resides or within the prior 6 months resided in the same
11 household as that person; a person with a significant personal or professional relationship
12 with that person; or a pet of that person or of that person's household or family.

13 **2. Disclosure.** "Disclosure" means the dissemination, distribution, circulation,
14 sharing, posting, publishing, transmittal or release of information through electronic or
15 other means.

16 **3. Doxing.** "Doxing" means the knowing disclosure of personal identifying
17 information of a person, without that person's consent, and when that disclosure is intended
18 to cause, and in fact either directly or indirectly causes:

19 A. A course of conduct directed at or concerning that person that constitutes stalking
20 under Title 17-A, section 210-A;

21 B. Physical harm to that person;

22 C. Serious damage to the property of that person; or

23 D. That person to reasonably fear for that person's own physical safety or to reasonably
24 fear for the physical safety of a close relation of that person.

25 **4. Minor.** "Minor" means a person who has not attained 18 years of age.

26 **5. Personal identifying information.** "Personal identifying information" means any
27 of the following information concerning a person that the person has not made and has not
28 authorized another person to make readily apparent to the public:

29 A. Biometric data;

30 B. Home address, work address or e-mail address;

31 C. Home telephone number or cellular telephone number;

32 D. Social security number, driver's license number or state-issued identification card
33 number;

34 E. Credit or debit card number; and

35 F. Medical, financial, educational, consumer or employment information or records in
36 combination with the person's legal name or prior legal name, alias, photograph or
37 likeness, mother's name or any prior legal name or date or place of birth.

1 4. That person to reasonably fear for that person's own physical safety or to reasonably
2 fear for the physical safety of a close relation of that person.

3 The bill sets out a number of defenses to this authorized civil action, including when
4 the disclosure of personal identifying information of a minor was for the sole purpose of
5 engaging in lawful and constitutionally protected activity pertaining to speech, assembly,
6 press or petition, including to address a matter of public concern.