



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 43

H.P. 37

House of Representatives, January 14, 2015

An Act To Make False Claims of Military Service a Crime

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

R. B. Hunt
ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FARRIN of Norridgewock.
Cosponsored by Senator CYRWAY of Kennebec and
Representatives: DUNPHY of Embden, HANINGTON of Lincoln, LONGSTAFF of
Waterville, NADEAU of Winslow, O'CONNOR of Berwick, SIROCKI of Scarborough,
SKOLFIELD of Weld, TURNER of Burlington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §910** is enacted to read:

3 **§910. False claims of military service status**

4 1. A person is guilty of a false claim of military service status if, with the intent to
5 solicit aid, sell or attempt to sell property or otherwise solicit an amount of more than
6 \$10, the person:

7 A. Falsely claims to be a veteran or member of the Armed Forces of the United
8 States or a state military force;

9 B. Falsely claims to have served in any war or conflict in which the United States
10 was engaged; or

11 C. Orally, in writing or by wearing a military decoration or rank, falsely claims to
12 have been awarded the military decoration or rank.

13 2. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, "military
14 decoration" means any decoration or medal awarded by the Armed Forces of the United
15 States or a state military force, including a service medal, ribbon, button or badge or a
16 rosette of a service medal, ribbon, button or badge or a colorable imitation of a service
17 medal, ribbon, button, badge or rosette.

18 3. A false claim of military service status is a Class E crime.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill creates the criminal offense of false claims of military service status, which
21 is a Class E crime. A person is guilty of a false claim of military service status if, with
22 the intent to solicit aid, sell or attempt to sell property or otherwise solicit an amount of
23 more than \$10, the person falsely claims to be a veteran or member of the Armed Forces
24 of the United States or a state military force, falsely claims to have served in any war or
25 conflict in which the United States was engaged or orally, in writing or by wearing a
26 military decoration or rank, falsely claims to have been awarded the military decoration
27 or rank.