

125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 1046

H.P. 781

House of Representatives, March 15, 2011

An Act To Amend the Application of the Maine Human Rights Act Regarding Public Accommodations

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

Heath & Puint

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Clerk

Presented by Representative FREDETTE of Newport. Cosponsored by Representatives: CRAFTS of Lisbon, CURTIS of Madison, CUSHING of Hampden, DAVIS of Sangerville, FITTS of Pittsfield, TURNER of Burlington, WINTLE of Garland, Senator: MASON of Androscoggin.

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

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2 Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4592, as amended by PL 2007, c. 664, §§5 to 7, is further 3 amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

4 <u>It is not unlawful public accommodations discrimination, in violation of this Act, for</u> 5 <u>a public or private entity to restrict rest room or shower facilities that are part of a public</u> 6 <u>accommodation to the use of single-sex facilities to members of a biological sex</u> 7 <u>regardless of sexual orientation. Unless otherwise indicated, a rest room or shower</u> 8 <u>facility designated for one biological sex is presumed to be restricted to that biological</u> 9 <u>sex.</u>

SUMMARY

11 This bill provides that it is not unlawful public accommodations discrimination, in 12 violation of the Maine Human Rights Act, for a public or private entity to restrict rest 13 room or shower facilities that are part of public accommodations to restrict the use of 14 single-sex facilities to members of a biological sex regardless of sexual orientation. 15 Unless otherwise indicated, a rest room or shower facility designated for one biological 16 sex is presumed to be restricted to that biological sex.