

## 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## **SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022**

**Legislative Document** 

No. 1871

H.P. 1381

House of Representatives, January 5, 2022

Resolve, Directing the Maine Human Rights Commission To Extend Its Pilot Program To Investigate and Report on Incidents of Harassment Due to Housing Status, Lack of Employment and Other Issues

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT

R(+ B. Hunt

Clerk

Presented by Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Sec. 1. Resolve 2019, c. 113, §1, amended. Resolved: That Resolve 2019, c. 113, §1 is amended to read:

Sec. 1. Maine Human Rights Commission pilot program to investigate and report on incidents and complaints of harassment due to housing status, lack of employment and other issues. Resolved: That the Maine Human Rights Commission shall, within budgeted resources, implement a 2-year 4-year pilot program to receive, review and investigate incidents and complaints of harassment due to a person's lack of employment or housing status and other reports of interference with a person's access to public accommodations.

In carrying out the pilot program, the commission shall investigate and respond to incidents and complaints of harassment as set out in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, sections 4611 and 4612. The commission may use any of its powers under Title 5, section 4566 to carry out the pilot program. The commission may limit the scope of the pilot program in the interest of efficiency.

The commission shall produce an interim report for submission to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary by September 15, 2021 2022. The commission shall produce a final report for submission to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters by September 15, 2022 2023. Either report may contain recommendations on changes to the pilot program or for its continuation as well as suggested legislation to carry out any of the recommendations.

Sec. 2. Retroactivity. Resolved: That this resolve is retroactive to June 16, 2020.

22 SUMMARY

This resolve extends by 2 years the 2-year Maine Human Rights Commission pilot program to receive, review and investigate incidents and complaints of harassment due to a person's housing status and other reports of interference with a person's access to public accommodations and extends the deadlines for its reports. The resolve is retroactive to June 16, 2020, the effective date of Resolve 2019, chapter 113.