

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE

—
H.P. 878 - L.D. 1200

An Act To Bring Gender Parity to Corporate Boards

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

Sec. 1. 13-C MRSA §803, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

4. Corporate board gender parity. A publicly held domestic corporation subject to this Act shall comply with the board of directors gender parity requirements of this subsection.

A. No later than June 1, 2023, a domestic publicly held corporation subject to this Act shall have a minimum of one female director on its board of directors. A corporation may increase the number of directors on its board to comply with this subsection.

B. No later than June 1, 2024, a domestic publicly held corporation subject to this Act shall comply with this paragraph.

(1) If the number of directors on its board of directors is 6 or more, the corporation shall have a minimum of 3 female directors.

(2) If the number of directors on its board of directors is 5, the corporation shall have a minimum of 2 female directors.

(3) If the number of directors on its board of directors is 4 or fewer, the corporation shall have a minimum of one female director.

C. The Secretary of State shall publish the following reports on its publicly accessible website.

(1) No later than June 30, 2023, the Secretary of State shall publish a report with the names of the publicly held domestic corporations subject to this Act and whether each corporation has the required minimum of one female director on its board of directors as designated on the corporation's 2023 annual report under section 1621, subsection 1.

(2) No later than June 30, 2024 and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State shall publish a report with the names of the publicly held domestic corporations subject to this Act and whether each corporation has the required minimum number of

female directors pursuant to paragraph B as designated on the corporation's last annual report under section 1621, subsection 1.

D. The Secretary of State shall adopt rules to implement this subsection. Rules adopted under this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined by Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

E. For purposes of this subsection, the following terms have the following meanings.

(1) "Female" means an individual who self-identifies as a woman, without regard to the individual's designated sex at birth.

(2) "Publicly held domestic corporation" means a corporation with outstanding shares listed on a major United States stock exchange.

Sec. 2. 13-C MRSA §1621, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2007, c. 323, Pt. C, §40 and affected by Pt. G, §4, is further amended to read:

1. Filing of annual report. Each domestic corporation, unless excused as provided in subsection 4 or excluded by subsection 6, and each foreign corporation authorized to do business in this State, shall deliver to the Secretary of State for filing, within the time prescribed by this section, an annual report setting forth:

A. The name of the domestic or foreign corporation and the jurisdiction of its incorporation;

B. The information required by Title 5, section 105, subsection 1;

C. A brief statement of the character of the business in which the domestic or foreign corporation is actually engaged in this State, if any;

E. The address of its principal office, wherever located;

F. The names of its principal officers; ~~and~~

G. The names of its directors, except that in the case of a corporation that has eliminated its board of directors pursuant to section 743 the annual report must set forth the names of the shareholders instead;

H. An indication as to whether the domestic corporation is publicly held;

I. An indication of how many female directors are on the board of directors of the publicly held domestic corporation; and

J. An indication as to whether the domestic publicly held corporation has the minimum number of female directors on its board of directors required by section 803, subsection 4.