

131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 975

H.P. 622

House of Representatives, March 2, 2023

An Act to Align Maine's Elevator Safety Laws with Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code Standards

(EMERGENCY)

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

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative CROCKETT of Portland. Cosponsored by Representative: BRENNAN of Portland.

- 1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and 3 Whereas, today's buildings often have multiple stories and are often serviced by an 4 elevator; and 5 Whereas, the ability to exit these buildings, particularly from higher floors, is important, especially in cases of evacuation by medical or emergency personnel; and 6 7 Whereas, if evacuation involves carrying a person on a stretcher, an elevator's capacity to accommodate the stretcher can be essential to the person's survival; and 8 9 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 10 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, 11 12 therefore, 13 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: 14 Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §15228, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2013, c. 70, Pt. D, §35, is 15 further amended to read: 16 1. Requirements. Notwithstanding section 15205-A, whenever a passenger elevator 17 is installed in a building being newly constructed or in a new addition that extends beyond 18 the exterior walls of an existing building, the passenger elevator must reach all levels within the building and be of sufficient size to allow the transport of a person on an ambulance 19 20 stretcher in the fully supine position, without having to raise, lower or bend the stretcher in 21 any way. This requirement applies to all plans approved after January 1, 2002 meet the standard established by the International Building Code, published by the International 22 23 Code Council, regarding elevator car accommodations for an ambulance stretcher, as adopted in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code under Title 10, chapter 1103. 24 The director shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. Rules 25 26 adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 27 375, subchapter 2-A. 28 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved. 29 30 SUMMARY 31 This bill requires that, for newly constructed buildings or for new additions that extend 32 beyond the exterior wall of an existing building, passenger elevators conform to the 33 International Building Code standard, as adopted in the Maine Uniform Building and 34 Energy Code, regarding elevator car accommodations for an ambulance stretcher. This bill
- 35 also removes obsolete effective date language.