

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

H.P. 622 - L.D. 975

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

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, today's buildings often have multiple stories and are often serviced by an elevator; and

Whereas, the ability to exit these buildings, particularly from higher floors, is important, especially in cases of evacuation by medical or emergency personnel; and

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

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 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, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §15228, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2013, c. 70, Pt. D, §35, is further amended to read:

1. Requirements. Notwithstanding section 15205-A, whenever a passenger elevator is installed in a building being newly constructed or in a new addition that extends beyond the exterior walls of an existing building, ~~the~~ at least one passenger elevator must reach ~~all levels every story~~ within the building and be of sufficient size to allow the transport of a person on an ambulance stretcher in the fully supine position, without having to raise, lower or bend the stretcher in any way. ~~This requirement applies to all plans approved after January 1, 2002. As used in this subsection, "story" has the same meaning as in the International Building Code, as adopted by the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board under Title 10, section 9722.~~ The director shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this ~~section~~ subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.