

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

## **An Act To Ensure Persons with Disabilities Have Access to Public Rest Rooms**

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

**Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4594-G, sub-§12** is enacted to read:

**12. Single-occupancy bathrooms.** Construction of a public building, as defined in subsection 6, must include the single-occupancy bathrooms that meet the standards of construction required by this section. Such bathrooms may not be designated as gender specific.

**Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §4594-H** is enacted to read:

### **§ 4594-H. Requirements for public buildings**

Single-occupancy bathrooms available for use by the public in a public building, as defined in section 4594-G, subsection 6, may not be designated as gender specific.

### **SUMMARY**

This bill provides that single-occupancy bathrooms in existing buildings for use by the general public may not be designated as gender specific. It also requires that new construction of buildings for use by the general public include the construction of single-occupancy bathrooms that meet the standards of construction for new buildings and the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The bathrooms may not be designated as gender specific; the purpose of this provision is to ensure that a person with a disability using the bathroom may be assisted by an attendant of a different gender.