



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 548

S.P. 170

In Senate, January 31, 2019

**An Act To Prohibit a Person under 18 Years of Age from Being
Charged with the Crime of Engaging in Prostitution**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, MILLETT of Cumberland, WOODSOME of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §853-A, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 476, §29, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **1.** A person who is 18 years of age or older is guilty of engaging in prostitution if:

5 A. The person engages in prostitution as defined in section 851. Violation of this
6 paragraph is a Class E crime, except that the sentencing alternative may include only
7 the penalties provided in section 1301; or

8 B. The person violates paragraph A and, at the time of the offense, the person has
9 one or more prior convictions under this section or for engaging in substantially
10 similar conduct to that contained in this section in another jurisdiction. Section 9-A
11 governs the use of prior convictions when determining a sentence, except that, for the
12 purposes of this paragraph, the date of the prior conviction may not precede the
13 commission of the offense by more than 2 years. Violation of this paragraph is a
14 Class D crime.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill prohibits minors from being charged with the crime of engaging in
17 prostitution.