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Date: (Filing No. H-)

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

HOUSE AMENDMENT “ ” to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “A” to H.P. 858, L.D. 1180, “An Act To Prohibit Discrimination in Housing Based on a Person's Participation in a Rental Assistance Program”

Amend the amendment in the first indented paragraph in the first line (page 1, line 12 in amendment) by striking out the following: "by inserting after section 3" and inserting the following: 'by striking out the title and substituting'

Amend the amendment by inserting after the first indented paragraph the following:
' Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Study Discrimination against Tenants Who Participate in Federal, State and Local Tenant-based Rental Assistance Programs' '

Amend the amendment by striking out everything after the first indented paragraph and inserting the following:

'Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

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

Whereas, this resolve establishes the Commission To Study Discrimination against Tenants Who Participate in Federal, State and Local Tenant-based Rental Assistance Programs; and

Whereas, the commission's study must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that the study may be completed and a report submitted in time for submission to the next legislative session; 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

Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission To Study Discrimination against Tenants Who Participate in Federal, State and Local Tenant-based Rental Assistance Programs, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.

HOUSE AMENDMENT

1 **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission consists of
2 8 members appointed as follows:

3 1. Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including
4 members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

5 2. Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
6 House, including 2 members from the party holding the largest number of seats in the
7 Legislature and one member from the party holding the 2nd-largest number of seats in the
8 Legislature;

9 3. One member representing an organization representing tenants receiving housing
10 assistance under the federal housing choice voucher program, appointed by the President
11 of the Senate;

12 4. One member representing an organization representing landlords, appointed by the
13 Speaker of the House; and

14 5. One member representing housing authorities in the State, appointed by the
15 President of the Senate.

16 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair
17 and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the
18 commission.

19 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved:** That all
20 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
21 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
22 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,
23 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more
24 after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been
25 made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for
26 the commission to meet and conduct its business.

27 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall study discrimination against
28 tenants who participate in federal, state and local tenant-based rental assistance programs.
29 The commission, in conducting its study, shall meet with and interview stakeholders.

30 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide
31 necessary staffing services to the commission, except that Legislative Council staff support
32 is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

33 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 1, 2021, the commission
34 shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested
35 legislation, for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. The joint
36 standing committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 130th
37 Legislature.

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

40 Amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
41 section number to read consecutively.

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SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve establishing the Commission To Study Discrimination against Tenants Who Participate in Federal, State and Local Tenant-based Rental Assistance Programs. The commission is directed to submit a report by December 1, 2021 to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

SPONSORED BY: _____

(Representative ARATA, A.)

TOWN: New Gloucester