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Legislative Document

No. 1374

H.P. 1008

House of Representatives, April 7, 2021

An Act To Extend the Time Period for Filing a Complaint under the Maine Human Rights Act for Discrimination Based on an Alleged Sexual Act, Sexual Contact or Sexual Touching

Received by the Clerk of the House on April 5, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

ROBERT B. HUNT

R(+ B. Hunt

Clerk

Presented by Representative TERRY of Gorham.

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4611, as amended by PL 2011, c. 613, §18 and affected by §29, is further amended to read:

§4611. Complaint

Any aggrieved person, or any employee of the commission, may file a complaint under oath with the commission stating the facts concerning the alleged discrimination, except that a complaint must be filed with the commission not more than 300 days after the alleged act of unlawful discrimination, unless the complaint is based on an alleged sexual act, sexual contact or sexual touching as defined in Title 17-A, section 251, in which case a complaint must be filed with the commission not more than 2 years after the alleged sexual act, sexual contact or sexual touching. In addition, any person may file a complaint pursuant to section 4632.

- **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §4612, sub-§2-A, ¶C,** as enacted by PL 2019, c. 465, §6, is amended to read:
 - C. Failure to file a complaint of discrimination within 300 days of the date of alleged discrimination the time period specified in section 4611;

17 SUMMARY

This bill extends the time period for filing a discrimination complaint with the Maine Human Rights Commission from 300 days to 2 years after the alleged act of unlawful discrimination if the complaint is based on a sexual act, sexual contact or sexual touching as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 251.