



Maine Human Rights Commission

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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May 12, 2025

The Honorable Anne Carney, Senate Chair
The Honorable Amy Kuhn, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: An Act to Correct Outdated References Regarding the Maine Human Rights Act - LD 1898

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:

The Maine Human Rights Commission ("Commission") is Maine's quasi-independent, nonpartisan State agency charged with enforcing our state anti-discrimination law, the Maine Human Rights Act, 5 M.R.S. §§ 4551, *et seq.* ("MHRA"). The Commission is statutorily charged with the duties of: investigating, conciliating, and at times litigating protected-class discrimination cases under the MHRA; promulgating rules and regulations to effectuate the Act; and making recommendations for further legislation or executive action concerning infringements on human rights in Maine. 5 M.R.S. § 4566(7), (11). With those duties in mind, the Commission is pleased to provide this testimony supporting LD 1898.

A few years ago, Title 19-A was revised and the section regarding protection orders was moved from § 4007 to § 4110. This bill corrects the MHRA to refer to the appropriate section of Title 19-A.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony about LD 1898. The Commission would be pleased to discuss these issues with you at your convenience, including at the work session on this matter.

Sincerely,

Kit Thomson Crossman, Executive Director

Cc: Commissioners