



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

Legislative Document

No. 2168

H.P. 1457

House of Representatives, January 20, 2026

An Act to Increase Accountability for Persons Engaged in Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking and to Support Victims

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative STOVER of Boothbay.

Cosponsored by Senator RENY of Lincoln and

Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor, Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, GATTINE of Westbrook, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, HENDERSON of Rumford, ROEDER of Bangor, SALISBURY of Westbrook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA c. 316-E** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 316-E**

4 **ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENT FOR PERSONS CONVICTED OF CERTAIN SEX**
5 **CRIMES**

6 **§3360-AA. Additional assessment for persons convicted of certain sex crimes**

7 The court shall impose an assessment of \$500, in addition to any other fine or
8 assessment imposed as part of a sentence or fine, on any person convicted of engaging a
9 person for prostitution under Title 17-A, section 853-B; sex trafficking under Title 17-A,
10 section 853; aggravated sex trafficking under Title 17-A, section 852; soliciting a child for
11 commercial sexual exploitation under Title 17-A, section 259-B; or commercial sexual
12 exploitation of a minor or commercial sexual exploitation of a person with a mental
13 disability under Title 17-A, section 855, except that the court shall impose an assessment
14 of \$1,000 on a person upon whom the court has previously imposed an assessment pursuant
15 to this section for a conviction of any of the crimes listed in this section. All funds collected
16 as a result of the assessment imposed pursuant to this section must be transferred to the
17 Victims' Compensation Fund under section 3360-H. Notwithstanding any provision of
18 chapter 316-A to the contrary, funds transferred to the Victims' Compensation Fund must
19 be used to meet the needs of victims and survivors of the crimes described in this section.
20 The court may waive all or part of the assessment under this section based on the convicted
21 person's ability to pay. For purposes of collection and collection procedures, the
22 assessment imposed pursuant to this section is considered part of the fine. At the time of
23 commitment, the court shall inform the Department of Corrections or the county sheriff of
24 any unpaid balances on assessments owed by the convicted person to the Victims'
25 Compensation Fund.

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill directs the court to impose a \$500 assessment, or a \$1,000 assessment for
28 repeat offenders, on a person convicted of engaging a person for prostitution, sex
29 trafficking, aggravated sex trafficking, soliciting a child for commercial sexual exploitation
30 or commercial sexual exploitation of a minor or person with a mental disability. Money
31 from assessments is deposited in the Victims' Compensation Fund and must be used to
32 meet the needs of victims and survivors of these crimes.