MAINE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION 51 STATE HOUSE STATION

AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0051

BASIS STATEMENT

Service Animal Amendments June 30, 2008

The amendments are proposed to conform the Commission's rules to the changes to the Maine Human Rights Act created by Public Law, Chapter 664, 123rd Maine State Legislature. The new statutory provisions, which became effective July 17, 2008, add a definition of "service animal" to the Act and address the rights of people with disabilities to use service animals in housing and places of public accommodation. The proposed rule incorporates these changes into the Commission's housing and public accommodations regulations.