



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 353

H.P. 279

House of Representatives, January 24, 2019

**An Act To Classify Recovery Residences as One-family Dwellings
for the Purposes of the Fire Code**

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FECTEAU of Augusta.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DILLINGHAM of Oxford, HICKMAN of Winthrop,
MILLETT of Waterford, MOONEN of Portland, SHEATS of Auburn, STEWART of Presque
Isle, STROM of Pittsfield, WARREN of Hallowell.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2452, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

3 **4. Exception.** Notwithstanding chapter 314 and Title 10, chapter 1103, a recovery
4 residence must be defined as a one-family dwelling under rules concerning safety to life
5 from fire if:

6 A. The recovery residence is located in a house;

7 B. The recovery residence has no more than 6 occupants; and

8 C. Each room of the recovery residence contains a fire extinguisher and a smoke
9 detector under section 2464.

10 For purposes of this section, "recovery residence" means a shared living residence for
11 persons recovering from substance use disorder that provides peer support in an
12 environment free from alcohol and illegal substances and assists residents in connecting
13 with support services or resources in the community that are available to persons
14 recovering from substance use disorder.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill requires a recovery residence located in a house to be considered a one-
17 family dwelling under rules concerning safety to life from fire if the recovery residence
18 has no more than 6 occupants and contains a fire extinguisher and smoke detector in each
19 room.

20 This bill also defines "recovery residence" as an alcohol-free and illegal substance-
21 free shared living residence for persons recovering from substance use disorder that
22 provides peer support and connects residents to support services and community
23 resources.