



ASSISTANCE

# Fair Housing in Maine

Find more easy-to-read legal information at [www.ptla.org](http://www.ptla.org)

If you are trying to buy or rent a house, apartment, or lot for a mobile home, the law protects you from discrimination based on:

- Race
- Color
- National origin or ancestry (where you or your family came from)
- Religion
- Sex
- Sexual orientation
- Disability
- Living with minor children, pregnancy, or getting legal custody of minor children
- Getting public assistance (including housing assistance)

It is illegal for a landlord or seller to treat you differently for these reasons.



These laws apply to landlords, sellers, real estate agents, and real estate money lenders.

If someone advertises a home for rent or for sale, the ad cannot exclude any of these groups of people, or "prefer" another group.



These rules apply to all types of housing EXCEPT when:

- the landlord lives in the building, and there are no more than 2 units, or
- the landlord is renting out 4 or fewer rooms in his or her home.

It is **illegal** for anyone to threaten or treat you wrongly for trying to enforce these laws!

If you believe you have been the victim of illegal discrimination, you can take legal action. The violator may be ordered to stop discriminating and to pay you damages. For help call Pine Tree Legal Assistance:

**Portland** 774-8211  
**Bangor** 942-8241  
**TTY** (for all locations) 711

**Lewiston** 784-1558  
**Machias** 255-8656

**Augusta** 622-4731  
**Presque Isle** 764-4349