

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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171  
R. 11.8

L.D. 2286

DATE: 4-3-00

(Filing No. H-1032)

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**JUDICIARY**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
119TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1634, L.D. 2286, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Paternity Establishment"

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 1 and 2.

Further amend the bill in section 3 by striking out all that part designated "**§1556.**" (page 1, lines 26 to 39 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

**'§1556. Remedies**

The Superior Court or District Court has jurisdiction over an action ~~under this subchapter and all remedies to determine parentage.~~ There is no right to demand a jury trial in an action to determine parentage. The Superior Court or District Court has jurisdiction for the enforcement of judgments for expenses of pregnancy and confinement for a wife or for education, support or funeral expenses for legitimate children and all remedies for the enforcement of these judgments apply. The court has continuing jurisdiction to modify or revoke a judgment for future education and support. All remedies under the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act are available for enforcement of duties of support under this subchapter.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of sections 5 and 7.

Further amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the  
summary the following:

**FISCAL NOTE**

If the State of Maine does not enact legislation eliminating the right to a trial by jury in an action to establish paternity, it may result in the State being out of conformity with federal law that mandates this change and, consequently, may result in the loss of approximately \$16,900,000 in federal funds to the Bureau of Family Independence and the Division of Support Enforcement and Recovery within the Department of Human Services, beginning in fiscal year 2000-01.

The Judicial Department may realize some minor savings from a reduction in the number of jury trials in the Superior Court.'

**SUMMARY**

This amendment amends the bill to keep paternity actions within the jurisdiction of both the Superior and District Courts.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.