## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

**Legislative Document** 

No. 730

H.P. 536

House of Representatives, February 14, 2003

Resolve, Allowing Christy Reposa and Michaela Corbin-Bumford to Sue the State

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. Macfarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative JOY of Crystal. (BY REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Representatives: ANDREWS of York, ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft,
CROSTHWAITE of Ellsworth, DUPREY of Hampden, TOBIN of Windham, TREADWELL of Carmel.

Sec. 1. Authorization to sue State. Resolved: That, notwithstanding any statute or common law to the contrary, Christy Reposa and Michaela Corbin-Bumford, or their legal representatives, who claim to have suffered damages as a result of the State's wrongfully removing a child from their respective homes, are authorized to bring civil actions against the State, but not against a past or present employee of the State.

These actions may be brought in the Aroostook County Superior Court within one year from the date this resolve is approved. Liability and damages, including punitive damages, must be determined according to state law as in litigation between individuals. The actions may be heard by a Justice of the Superior Court or by a jury. The Maine Rules of Civil Procedure govern the conduct of the actions. The Attorney General shall appear, answer and defend the actions.

The Treasurer of State shall pay any judgments, including costs and interest, on final process issued by the Superior Court or, if applicable, the Supreme Judicial Court.

## **SUMMARY**

This resolve authorizes Christy Reposa and Michaela Corbin-Bumford to sue the State for damages resulting from alleged wrongful removal of a child from their respective homes.