MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

 130^{th} Legislature First Regular and First Special Sessions



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

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December 2021

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

LD 765 An Act To Provide for Judicial Review in Compliance with the Federal Family First Prevention Services Act

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 210 adds definitions to the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act and creates a statutory requirement for a court hearing within 60 days of a child's placement in a qualified residential treatment program as required to claim federal reimbursement for the cost, with respect to a child in state custody, of placement in a residential care facility under the federal Family First Prevention Services Act. Additionally, it ensures that regular reviews of a child's continued placement in a qualified residential treatment program are conducted by the court. The Supreme Judicial Court is authorized to adopt rules of pleading, practice and procedure with respect to the required court hearings and proceedings.

LD 766 An Act To Ensure the Safety of Certain State Employees by Allowing Disclosure of Certain Confidential Information in Limited Circumstances

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 148 allows the Department of Health and Human Services, with court authorization, to release confidential information maintained in its child protective records to an administrator of a social media service to report, investigate or remove a threat or serious intimidation attempt directed at department staff, an employee of the Attorney General's office, a guardian ad litem or a court officer. It defines the term "social media service" and prohibits a social media service from redisclosing the confidential information provided by the department.

LD 776 An Act To Amend the Length of Time and Circumstances for Which a Sheriff May Furlough Individuals Incarcerated in a County Jail

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 211 extends from three to seven days the length of time that a sheriff may furlough a person who is incarcerated in a county jail. It adds to the purposes for which furlough may be granted participation in a program operated by a jail that conditions release on regular daily reporting to the jail of the prisoner's location and activities.