

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1104

H. P. 862

House of Representatives, February 27, 1969

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and 1,000 ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Kilroy of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to Adoption of Children.

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

R. S., T. 19, § 532, amended. Section 532 of Title 19 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by sections 2 and 3 of chapter 432 of the public laws of 1967, is further amended by adding before the last paragraph a new paragraph to read as follows:

The effect of this surrender and release, which shall be executed in duplicate and be transferable, together with the custody and control of such child, by such department to any such society or agency, or by such society or agency to another such society or agency, or to such department, shall be fully explained by the judge of probate to the parent or parents executing the same; and one of said duplicates, and a duplicate original of any such transfer, shall be filed by the judge in his court.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The private adoption agencies regularly accept surrenders of children for the purpose of adoption. These surrenders are usually accepted when the infants are very young and at the time of acceptance pediatric evaluation of the infants has indicated that they are physically and developmentally normal. From time to time, however, an infant subsequently develops signs of physical abnormality or mental retardation and an adoptive home cannot be found for him. Long-time foster care must be provided for such a child and the private adoption agencies are not funded for this. The proposed amendment to the adoption law would make legal the transfer of the surrender to the public agency for long-time foster care.