

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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§ 531. Persons who may adopt

Any husband and wife jointly, or any unmarried person, resident or non-resident of the State of Maine, may petition the probate court to adopt a person, regardless of age, and for a change of his or her name. Jurisdiction to grant such adoption and change of name shall be in the county where the person to be adopted lives or the county where the petitioner resides or the petitioners reside or in the county in which the placing agency is located. Any person serving on active duty in a military branch or the United States and the spouse of any such person who is not a citizen of the State of Maine and who, at the time of filing a petition for adoption, has been stationed at one or more military installations or other place in this State for a period of 3 months next before the filing of such petition, shall for the purposes hereof be deemed to be an actual bona fide inhabitant of the State of Maine and resident of the county in which he is or has been stationed. The consent of the natural parents shall not be required for the adoption of any person 20 years of age, or over.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.