

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1470**

H. P. 1135

House of Representatives, March 13, 1973

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. McTeague of Brunswick.

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## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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### **AN ACT Relating to Support and Education of Persons 18 Years of Age and Older.**

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

**R. S., T. 1, § 72, sub-§ 1, amended.** Subsection 1 of section 72 of Title 1 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 2 of chapter 433 of the public laws of 1969 and as amended by section 1 of chapter 598 of the public laws of 1971, is further amended by adding the following new sentence:

**Except that the responsibility of a parent for the support and education of his or her child shall continue after such child has attained the age of 18 years and as long as such child remains unmarried, maintains his domicile with either parent and is enrolled as a regular student in either high school, college or other institution of higher learning.**

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

There is a problem of maintenance, support and education of an 18-year-old person, who is still attending school or college and who resides with his divorced mother. The 1971 Legislature enacted the law that an 18-year-old is considered an adult. Consequently, our courts have taken the position that the divorced father's responsibility for the education and support of that child has terminated. This situation is a most serious one and how tragic the consequences frequently are for many of our young people who are still residing in the mother's home and are attending high school or college and who are often denied education and support which the father may well be able to provide.