

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1801

H. P. 1392

House of Representatives, April 4, 1973

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Connolly of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Adoption of Foster Children by their Foster Parents.

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

R. S., T. 19, § 533, amended. Section 533 of Title 19 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding at the end of the first paragraph a new sentence to read as follows :

In all cases where a minor child has lived in a home under the supervision of the Department of Health and Welfare for a period of 3 or more years, said home shall be presumed to be a suitable one for that child.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to give foster parents first consideration to adopt foster children who are in their custody for 3 or more years and who are available for adoption. It does not alter the law requiring that a parent or guardian consent to adoption, as controlled by Title 19, section 532, but rather creates a presumption that any home good enough for foster children is good enough for adoption placements and even that presumption can be rebutted by the department.