

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(Filing No. H-658)

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
108TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1367, L.D. 1596, Bill, "AN ACT Relating to Irreconcilable Marital Differences as Grounds for Divorce and Mental Illness as an Impediment to Divorce."

Amend the bill by striking out everything in the Title and inserting in its place the following: 'AN ACT Relating to Mental Illness as an Impediment to Divorce.'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 19 MRSA §691, sub-§1, §§'s G and H, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 226, §1, are amended to read:

G. Cruel and abusive treatment; and

H. Irreconcilable marital differences; and

I. Mental illness requiring confinement in a mental institution for at least 7 consecutive years prior to the commencement of the action.

Sec. 2. 19 MRSA §691, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 226, §1, is amended by inserting after the 2nd paragraph the following new paragraph to read:

If the alleged cause is mental illness, as provided in paragraph I, the court shall appoint a guardian ad litem to represent the interests of the defendant.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this \longleftrightarrow amendment is to limit the bill to providing just one additional ground for divorce, mental illness requiring the confinement of the defendant in a mental institution for at least 7 consecutive years prior to the filing of the action.

Reported by the Committee on Judiciary.

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