

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 35

H. P. 18

House of Representatives, January 10, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary and sent up for concurrence.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Call of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Permit the Publication of the Names of Juveniles in Connection with Arrests and Court Appearances.

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

Sec. 1. 15 MRSA § 3307, sub-§ 2, as amended by PL 1977, c. 664, §§27 and 28, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

2. Certain hearings public.

A. The general public shall not be excluded from adjudicatory hearings on a juvenile crime that would constitute a crime if the juvenile involved were an adult or from any subsequent dispositional hearings in that case.

B. The general public shall be excluded from all other juvenile hearings and proceedings.

Sec. 2. 15 MRSA § 3308, sub-§ 5, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 520, § 1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

5. Other records. Intake workers' records, probation officers' records and all other reports of social and clinical studies shall not be open to inspection except with consent of the court or except to the extent that those records, reports and studies were made a part of the record of a hearing that was open to the general public under section 3307. Nothing in this section shall prevent the release and publication of the name of any juvenile arrested for a juvenile crime that would constitute a crime if the juvenile involved were an adult.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to permit the release and publication of the names of juveniles arrested or brought to trial for criminal offenses. This bill also would make adjudicatory hearings on juvenile crimes open to the public.