MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 126

S. P. 72

In Senate, January 23, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

Presented by Senator Perkins of Hancock.

Cosponsor: Senator Carpenter of Aroostook.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Provide Birth Certificates for Foreign-born Citizens Adopted by Maine Parents.

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

- 22 MRSA § 2765, sub-§ 6, is enacted to read:
- 6. Adoption of foreign-born citizens. The State Registrar shall establish a certificate of birth for a citizen who is domiciled in this State, but who was born in a foreign country when he receives the following:
 - A. A certificate of adoption from a court of this State as provided in Title 19, section 533 or a certified copy of the decree of that adoption;
 - B. A certification of birth data from the records of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service;
 - C. A certification pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1454 that the person is a naturalized American citizen; and

D. A request that a birth certificate be issued.

The certificate shall show the place and date of birth when known and the names of the adoptive parents. When the person's name has been changed, the birth certificate shall show both the person's original name and his name at the time the birth certificate is issued.

When the new certificate of birth is established, the State Registrar shall provide copies of the certificate of birth to the clerk of the municipality where the adoptive parents resided at the time of the adoption.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Under present law foreign-born children adopted by Maine parents cannot obtain a birth certificate. This can cause needless embarrassment and inconvenience throughout the persons' lives, such as when starting school, upon marriage or when applying for Social Security. The purpose of this bill is to eliminate these problems.