

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-308)
110TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 864, L.D. 1025, Bill,
"AN ACT to Protect Privacy in Divorce and Child Custody Actions."

Amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting
clause and inserting in its place the following:

'19 MRSA §695 is enacted to read:

§695. Divorce or custody proceedings

1. Exclusion of public. In a divorce action or an
action for child custody under this chapter, at the request
of either party, personally or through his attorney, unless
the other party who has entered an appearance objects person-
ally or through his attorney, the court shall exclude the
public from the court proceedings.

2. Scope. If the public is excluded under subsection
1, only the parties, their attorneys, court officers and
witnesses may be present.

Statement of Fact

This amendment requires exclusion of the public from
divorce or child custody proceedings in court if either
party, without objection from the other party, requests the
exclusion. The amendment also deletes the paragraphs of sec-
tion 2 of the bill providing for confidentiality of the
records of a divorce or custody action and directing where
the proceeding is to held if the public is excluded.

Reported by Report "A" of the Committee on Judiciary.
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