

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1313

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-400)
110TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1108, L.D. 1313,
Bill, "AN ACT Concerning Access by Adopted Children to
Biological Family Medical Files."

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

'Sec. 1. 19 MRSA §533, as last amended by PL 1979,
c. 733, ~~§11~~, is further amended by adding after the
first sentence a new sentence to read:

The department or licensed adoption agency shall obtain whatever
medical or genetic information on the child and the parents
that is available.

Sec. 2. 19 MRSA §533, as last amended by PL 1979,
c. 733, ~~§11~~, is further amended by adding after the 3rd sentence
a new sentence to read:

Any available medical or genetic information on the child or
parents shall be placed in the court records and shall be
supplied to the adoptive parents.

Sec. 3. 19 MRSA §534 is amended by adding at the end a
new paragraph to read:

Any medical or genetic information in the court records
relating to an adoption shall be made available to the adopted
child upon reaching the age of 18, his descendants,
adoptive parents or ~~or~~ legal guardian on petition to the court.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment replaces the original bill and requires the collection of medical, genetic or other health-related information on the child and his biological parents as part of adoption proceedings after the effective date of this /^{legislation.} It also requires that this information be made available to the adoptive parents at the time of the adoption. It also requires that any medical or genetic information contained in court records be made available, on petition, to the adopted child, his descendants, \longleftrightarrow adoptive parents or \longleftrightarrow legal guardian.

Family medical information is of great value and significance to adoptees because so many diseases or problems are genetically transmitted.

This amendment will allow adoptees the opportunity to seek treatment, if necessary, or to plan for their own health and that of their descendants.

Reported by the Committee on Judiciary.
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