

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 (EMERGENCY)  
2 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
3

4 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
5

6 Legislative Document

No. 411

8 S.P. 144

In Senate, February 5, 1985

9 Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

10 JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

11 Presented by Senator Carpenter of Aroostook.

Cosponsored by Representative Foster of Ellsworth, Senator Sewall of  
Lincoln and Representative Hayden of Durham.

12  
13 STATE OF MAINE  
14

15 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
16 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE  
17

18 AN ACT to Repeal Sunset Provisions on Certain  
19 Amendments to the Law Regarding  
20 Mediation in Domestic Relations Cases.  
21

22 Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legis-  
23 lature do not become effective until 90 days after  
24 adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

25 Whereas, the 90-day period will not terminate un-  
26 til after March 15, 1985; and

27 Whereas, recent changes in Maine's domestic rela-  
28 tions law enacted by the Legislature in September of  
29 1984 which have had a positive effect on the disposi-  
30 tion of domestic relations cases are scheduled to ex-  
31 pire on March 15, 1985; and

32 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,  
33 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of  
34 the Constitution of Maine and require the following

1 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-  
2 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
3 therefore,

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

6 PL 1983, c. 862, §103 is repealed.

7 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited  
8 in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when ap-  
9 proved.

10 STATEMENT OF FACT

11 The Third Special Session of the 111th Legisla-  
12 ture amended the mandatory mediation law to allow the  
13 court to hear, prior to mediation motions on issues  
14 related to child support, parental rights and respon-  
15 sibility and possession of the family residence, pri-  
16 or to reference to mediation if good cause can be  
17 shown.

18 The court, attorneys and parties to domestic re-  
19 lations cases supported these changes.

20 These changes were enacted on a trial basis and  
21 are scheduled to sunset March 1, 1985. This bill  
22 permanently places these changes into law.

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