

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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D. OFR

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L.D. 1253

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(Filing No. S-271)

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STATE OF MAINE

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SENATE

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112TH LEGISLATURE

6

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

7

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 450, L.D.

8

1253, Bill, "AN ACT to Establish a Procedure to Ap-

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point Advocates for Foster Children."

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Amend the bill by striking out all of the title

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and inserting in its place the following:

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'AN ACT to provide a procedure to Petition

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for Standing and Intervenor Status for Foster

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Parents in Child Protection Proceedings.'

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Further amend the bill by striking out everything

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after the enacting clause and inserting in its place

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the following:

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'22 MRSA §4005-A is enacted to read:

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§4005-A. Foster parents right to standing and inter-

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venor status in child protection proceed-

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ings

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1. Definition. As used in this section, unless

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the context indicates otherwise, the following terms

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have the following meanings.

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A. "Foster parent" means a person who has re-

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ceived a license for a family foster home as de-

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defined in section 8101, subsection 3, or who is a

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relative and who has had a child in his home for

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at least one-year.

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2. Petition. A foster parent may petition for

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standing and intervenor status in any child protec-

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tion proceeding under this chapter regarding his foster

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child, provided that the child is living in the

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foster parent's home or in any child protection pro-

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ceeding initiated 10 days after the child is removed

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 450, L.D. 1253

1 from or leaves the foster home. The standing and in-
2 tervenor status is limited to that proceeding unless
3 otherwise ordered by the court.

4 3. Criteria. The court shall make a determina-
5 tion whether to grant standing based on the strength
6 and duration of the relationship between the foster
7 parents and the child and in the best interests of
8 the child.'

9 STATEMENT OF FACT

10 This amendment replaces the original bill and al-
11 lows a foster parent to petition the court for stand-
12 ing and intervenor status in a child protection pro-
13 ceeding. The foster child must be living with the
14 foster parent or have just left or been removed. The
15 court shall look at the strength and duration of the
16 relationship and the best interests of the child in
17 making this determination.

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Reported by Senator Bustin for the Committee on Human
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