

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 369

H.P. 286 House of Representatives, February 12, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative ANTHONY of South Portland.
Cosponsored by Representative CLARK of Brunswick and
Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

1 AN ACT to Expand the Adoption Registry.
2

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

5 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2706-A, sub-§2, as enacted by
6 PL 1979, c. 384, is repealed and the following en-
7 acted in its place:

8 2. Registration. The following persons may reg-
9 ister their names and addresses with the state regis-
10 trar and request contact:

11 A. Adopted persons, custodians and guardians:

12 (1) An adopted person 18 years old or more;

1 (2) A person 18 years old or more whose
2 adoption was annulled or whose adoptive par-
3 ents surrendered and released parental
4 rights to him or whose parental rights were
5 terminated;

6 (3) The legal custodian of a person whose
7 adoption was annulled, or who was surren-
8 dered and released by his adoptive parents
9 or whose parental rights were terminated;

10 (4) The legal custodian of an adopted child
11 who has been removed from the custody or
12 guardianship of his adoptive parents by or-
13 der of a court; and

14 (5) A legal guardian of an adult adopted
15 person who has been determined by the court
16 to be incapacitated;

17 B. Adoptive parents:

18 (1) An adoptive parent of an adopted person
19 who is less than 18 years old;

20 (2) An adoptive parent of an adopted person
21 who is deceased; and

22 (3) An adoptive parent of an adult adopted
23 person who has been determined by the court
24 to be incapacitated;

25 C. Biological parents and relatives:

26 (1) A biological parent of an adopted per-
27 son;

28 (2) The biological mother, legal father,
29 grandparent, sibling, half-sibling, aunt,
30 uncle or first cousin of a deceased biologi-
31 cal parent of an adopted person;

32 (3) A full sibling, half-sibling or adopted
33 sibling, who is 18 years old or more, of an
34 adopted person; and

1 (4) The legal custodian of a minor child
2 whose sibling is an adopted child; and

3 D. Other persons:

4 (1) The legal custodian of a minor child
5 who was freed for adoption, but was never
6 subsequently adopted.

7 Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §2706-A, sub-§3-A is enacted to
8 read:

9 3-A. Providing information about available coun-
10 seling support. The state registrar shall provide
11 information about sources of counseling support to
12 any person registering or requesting contact.

13 Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §2706-A, sub-§5, as amended by
14 PL 1985, c. 673, is further amended to read:

15 5. Request for contact. When the state registrar
16 has a request for contact from both a biological par-
17 ent and that parent's adopted child or the child's
18 adoptive parent any 2 persons specified in subsection
19 2 related to the same adoption, he shall notify each
20 party of the name and address of the other party and
21 of sources of counseling support. If a biological
22 parent, an adoptive parent or an adopted person reg-
23 istered under this section has made a request for
24 contact and the party being sought died in Maine, the
25 state registrar may disclose to the requesting party
26 the fact that the biological parent, adoptive parent
27 or the adopted person has died.

28 STATEMENT OF FACT

29 The adoption registry currently provides that on-
30 ly adult adopted persons, adoptive parents on behalf
31 of minor adoptees and biological parents may register
32 for a possible reunion.

33 This bill broadens the categories to allow for
34 registration by other persons who would otherwise be
35 foreclosed from registering and thereby making con-
36 tact, including people whose adoption was annulled,

1 adoptive parents of adopted persons who are deceased,
2 relatives of deceased biological parents, adult sib-
3 lings of adoptees and custodians or guardians of mi-
4 nor or incapacitated adult adoptees.

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