

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 611

H.P. 456 House of Representatives, March 4, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative McPHERSON of Eliot.
Cosponsored by Representative ROLDE of York.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 AN ACT Relative to Guardian Ad Litem
2 Appointments in Adoption Proceedings.
3

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

6 Sec. 1. 19 MRSA §533, 2nd ¶, as enacted by PL
7 1979, c. 733, §11, is amended to read:

8 The court may appoint a guardian ad litem for the
9 child or a birth parent who is less than 18 years of
10 age at any time during the proceedings.

11 Sec. 2. 19 MRSA §538, sub-§§1 and 2 are enacted
12 to read:

13 1. Appointment. A guardian ad litem shall be
14 appointed for any birth parent who is less than 18

1 years old or any child who is the subject of an adop-
2 tion through an agency which is not the Department of
3 Human Services. The guardian ad litem shall be re-
4 sponsible for the birth parent receiving:

5 A. All discoverable court documents, as well as
6 agency and foster care hospital records;

7 B. Written information explaining legal rights
8 and the consequences of surrender of parental
9 rights; and

10 C. Information regarding post-adoption services
11 provided by public and private agencies or orga-
12 nizations.

13 2. Fees. The fee for the guardian ad litem
14 shall be set by the Probate Court and paid by the
15 adoption agency or, if no agency was involved, by the
16 adoptive parents.

17 STATEMENT OF FACT

18 This bill requires that in all adoption proceed-
19 ings, the surrendering birth parent or parents have
20 access to a court appointed or approved guardian ad
21 litem.

22 1984022187