

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 415

(Filing No. H-201)

STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
114TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 303, L.D. 415, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act and the Law Governing Shelters for Children"

Amend the bill in section 5 in paragraph J by striking out all of the last sentence (page 2, lines 2 to 4 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following: 'The department may only disclose that it has not accepted the report for investigation, unless other disclosure provisions of this section apply.'

Further amend the bill in section 6 in subsection 1 in the 8th line (page 2, line 16 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "mediator in a divorce action,"

Further amend the bill in section 7 by striking out all of paragraph A and inserting the following:

'A. The department may interview a child without prior notification to the parent or custodian when the department has reasonable grounds to believe that prior notice would increase the threat or serious harm to the child or another person. The department may conduct one initial interview with a child without prior notification to the parent or custodian of the child when the child contacts the department or a person providing services puts the child into contact with the department.'

Further amend the bill in section 8 in subsection 2 in paragraph D (page 3, line 18 in L.D.) by inserting after the word "care" the following: 'under Title 15, section 3501.'

Further amend the bill in section 9 in paragraph A in the 5th line (page 3, line 27 in L.D.) by inserting before the word "shelters" the following: 'until October 1, 1990.'

1 Further amend the bill in section 10 in subsection 5 in the  
2 4th line (page 3, line 38 in L.D.) by inserting before the word  
3 "shelters" the following: ', until October 1, 1990,'

5 Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 11.

7 Further amend the bill by renumbering the sections to read  
8 consecutively.

11  
12 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

13 This amendment makes several changes from the original bill.

15 It authorizes the Department of Human Services to disclose  
16 to a person making a report of child abuse or neglect that the  
17 department has not accepted the case for investigation.

19 It deletes the provision of the original bill which would  
20 have required mediators in divorce actions to report to the  
21 department any suspected child abuse or neglect.

23 It provides that the department may conduct one initial  
24 interview with a child without prior notification to the parent  
25 when the child contacts the department or a person providing  
26 services puts the child in contact with the department.

29 It places a one year sunset on the provisions of the  
30 original bill permitting services by shelters for homeless  
31 children to be governed by the parental notification provisions  
32 of the department's rules.

33 It eliminates the section of the original bill defining  
34 "interim care" by a law enforcement officer and cross-references  
35 a parallel definition of that term in the Maine Juvenile Code.

37

Reported by the Committee on Human Resources  
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the  
House  
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