

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

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Legislative Document

No. 872

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H.P. 638

House of Representatives, March 22, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative HANLEY of Paris.

Cosponsored by Representative PENDLETON of Scarborough, Senator RANDALL of Washington and Senator GAUVREAU of Androscoggin.

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### STATE OF MAINE

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

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#### **An Act Concerning the Reporting of Alleged Child Abuse.**

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

3 22 MRSA §4010-A is enacted to read:

5 §4010-A. Child abuse policies

7 1. Policy development. Every public or private  
9 institution, agency, facility or other organization that provides  
11 services or care of any kind to children shall develop a written  
13 policy outlining its course of action if allegations of physical  
15 or sexual child abuse or other related allegations are made  
17 against it or one or more of its employees.

19 2. Filing. Any policy developed pursuant to subsection 1  
21 must be filed with the state agency or department that licenses  
23 or regulates the institution, agency, facility or other  
25 organization filing the policy. If no such state agency or  
27 department exists, the policy shall be filed with the Department  
29 of Human Services.

31 3. Time for filing. Any policy developed pursuant to  
33 subsection 1 shall be filed by January 1, 1990, or, for an  
35 institution, agency, facility or other organization not existing  
37 before that date, January 1st of the year following the calendar  
39 year that it comes into existence.

41 4. Availability of policy. An institution, agency,  
43 facility or other organization under subsection 1 shall make a  
45 copy of its policy available to the public and to its employees,  
upon request, during regular business hours.

33 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

35 This bill requires any public or private institution,  
37 agency, facility or other organization that provides services of  
39 any kind to children to develop and make available to the public  
41 or its employees a policy outlining its course of action if  
43 allegations of physical or sexual child abuse or other related  
45 allegations are made against it or one or more of its employees.  
Policies developed pursuant to this bill must be filed with the  
licensing or regulating state agency or department of the  
institution, agency, facility or other organization by January 1,  
1990.