

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
115TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P.  
210, L.D. 301, Bill, "An Act to Promote the Emotional Health of  
Children During Periods of Stress"

Amend the amendment in section 1 in that part designated  
"§9-C." in subsection 3 in the last line (page 2, line 9 in  
amendment) by inserting after the following: "program." the  
following: 'The rules must take into account issues of family  
violence and must provide for waiver of the attendance  
requirement in appropriate circumstances related to acquisition  
of comparable information obtained from other sources, lack of  
transportation, lack of child care, distance of residence from  
the program site or other factors that would cause attendance to  
be an excessive burden on a party to the case or in other  
circumstances when the underlying purpose of the requirement  
would not be furthered by attendance. Application for a waiver  
of the attendance requirement, whether or not granted, does not  
prejudice a party in the determination of the underlying legal  
issues of the case.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment clarifies that the rules adopted by the  
Supreme Judicial Court must give due consideration to special  
hardships, including those concerning family violence. The  
amendment provides that an application for waiver of attendance  
for any of these reasons does not prejudice a party in the  
determination of the underlying legal issues.

(Senator CLARK)  
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