

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

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Legislative Document

No. 1140

H.P. 794

House of Representatives, March 18, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative FARNSWORTH of Hallowell.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

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An Act Relating to Name Changes During Divorce Proceedings.

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

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4 19 MRSA §752, sub-§11, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 813, §5, is amended to read:

6 11. **Name change.** Upon the request of ~~the wife during the~~  
8 action either spouse to change that person's own name at the time  
10 of final hearing for divorce or annulment or at any time  
12 thereafter, the court may shall change the name of the wife that  
14 spouse to any former name or the court may change the name of  
16 that spouse to any name requested.

### STATEMENT OF FACT

16 The purpose of this bill is 3-fold. First, while the  
18 present version of the law affords only wives the opportunity to  
20 request a name change at the time of the final hearing for  
22 divorce or annulment, the bill allows husbands to request a  
24 change of name at that time as well. Second, the bill requires  
26 the court to grant the request if the request is for a return to  
any former name. Third, the bill clarifies that it is still  
within the court's discretion to grant a request for a change of  
name to anything other than a former name.