## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

### FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 567

H.P. 441

House of Representatives, February 22, 1993

An Act to Encourage Payment of Child Support Obligations.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative POULIN of Oakland. Cosponsored by Representatives: ADAMS of Portland, MORRISON of Bangor, Senator: PARADIS of Aroostook.

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

Sec. 1. 19 MRSA §448-A, sub-§9 is enacted to read:

9. Location of responsible parents through utility records. The department may submit a written request to a public utility seeking assistance in locating a responsible parent. A public utility shall provide information in its possession about the location of responsible parents, but may release only information limited to the place of residence of the responsible parent who is the subject of the request. The department may make this information available only to public officials and agencies of this State and its political subdivisions and other states and their political subdivisions that are seeking to enforce the support liability of parents or to locate parents who have, or appear to have, deserted their children.

### Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §713 is enacted to read:

### §713. Cooperation for child support enforcement

A public utility shall provide information upon written request by a child support enforcement agent of the Department of Human Services pursuant to Title 19, section 448-A, subsection 9, regarding parents obligated to provide child support. Information that may be released by a public utility is limited to the place of residence of the parent who is the subject of the request.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill allows child support enforcement agents of the Department of Human Services to request from public utilities information about the residence of any responsible parent who owes child support. The only information the utility can release is the place of residence of the responsible parent. This will help the department to track down parents who are not fulfilling their child support obligations.