

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

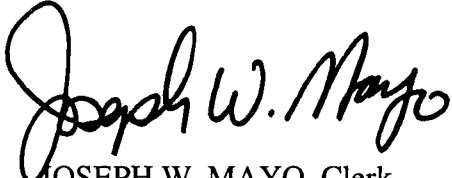
No. 352

H.P. 250

House of Representatives, January 31, 1995

**An Act to Authorize the Broadcasting of Information about Persons Who
Are Delinquent with Child Support Payments.**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative PLOWMAN of Hampden.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CARLETON of Wells, FARNUM of South Berwick, OTT
of York, Senator: HARRIMAN of Cumberland.

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

2
3 **Sec. 1. 19 MRSA §307**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410 , Pt. V,
4 §4, is amended to read:

6 **§307. Publication and broadcast of delinquent child support**
7 **obligors**

8
9 **1. Publication.** The Department of Human Services may
10 publish in the State's newspapers the names of delinquent child
11 support obligors who owe unpaid child support. Publication may
12 include the place of residence and the amount of unpaid child
13 support of each obligor.

14
15 **1-A. Broadcast.** The Department of Human Services may
16 provide information about delinquent child support obligors to
17 radio and television stations, including cable operators, for
18 broadcasting. The information may include the names and places
19 of residence of child support obligors who owe unpaid child
20 support, as well as the amount of unpaid child support of each
21 obligor.

22
23 **2. Immunity.** Newspapers, radio stations and television
24 stations including cable operators and their employees are immune
25 from any criminal or civil liability as a result of publication
26 under subsection 1 or broadcast under subsection 1-A, unless
27 publication or broadcast is a result of negligent or intentional
28 misconduct.

30
31
32 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

33
34 Current law allows the Department of Human Services to
35 publish the names, residences of and the amount of child support
36 owed by delinquent child support obligors. This bill expands
37 that publicizing authority to radio and television, including
38 cable television. The department may provide the same
39 information to radio and television stations, including cable
40 operators, for the broadcast of the information as a public
41 service.
42