

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

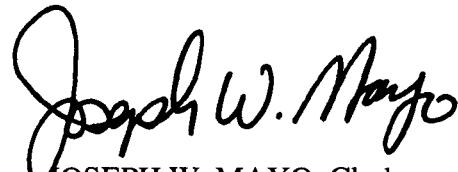
No. 529

H.P. 394

House of Representatives, February 14, 1995

**An Act to Allow the Department of Human Services to Take Protective
Custody of Certain Newborn Children.**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative PLOWMAN of Hampden.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4023, sub-§2-A** is enacted to read:

6 2-A. Custody of newborns. The department may take custody of a newborn child if, at the time of the child's birth:

8 A. One or more other children of the newborn child's mother are in the custody of the department;

10 B. The mother has not made significant gains in the reunification process with the other child or children; and

12 C. The mother is unable to provide the child with an appropriate caretaker other than herself upon the birth of the child.

18

20 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

22 This bill allows the Department of Human Services, as a
24 short-term emergency intervention, to take custody of a newborn
26 child if other children of the same mother are in the custody of
28 the department, the mother has not made significant gains in
reuniting with those children and the mother is unable to provide
an appropriate alternative caretaker for the newborn child.