MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the

LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY

at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library

http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied (searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1398

S.P. 513

Received by the Secretary, April 18, 1995

Resolve, to Authorize the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary to Study and Make Recommendations Concerning the Enactment of the Uniform Adoption Act.

(EMERGENCY)

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 14.

MAY M. ROSS

Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MILLS of Somerset.

	Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves of the
2	Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and
4	Whereas, it is unwise for the Legislature to consider
6	enacting the Uniform Adoption Act without a subcommittee first
8	having studied in depth the provisions and potential consequences, using the expertise of adoption agencies,
10	attorneys, Probate Court Judges and Registers of Probate, persons who have experience with the adoption laws, state agencies and others; and
12	Whereas, this in-depth study should occur before the
14 16	convening of the Second Regular Session of the 117th Legislature to provide the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary sufficient time to consider the recommendations of the study; and
18	Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
20	Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
22	safety; now, therefore, be it
24	Sec. 1. Subcommittee established. Resolved: That the chairs of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary appoint a 4-member
26	subcommittee to review the Uniform Adoption Act that was approved and recommended by the National Conference of Commissioners on
28	Uniform State Laws in 1994, and make recommendations concerning changes in Maine law; and be it further
30	Sec. 2. Participation in review and drafting. Resolved: That the
32	subcommittee shall invite participation in the review and drafting by:
34	 Adoption agencies;
36	 Adoptive parents;
38	
40	3. Attorneys with experience in providing legal services for adoptions;
42	4. Birth parents of adopted children;
44	5. The Department of Human Services, Bureau of Child and Family Services;
46	6. The Family Law Section of the Maine State Bar
48	Association;

2	7. Maine commissioners to the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws;
4	8. Probate Court Judges;
6	9. Registers of Probate; and
8	10. Any other organizations, agencies or individuals whose participation would be helpful in carrying out the review; and be
10	it further
12 14	Sec. 3. Assistance. Resolved: That the subcommittee may request staffing assistance from the Legislative Council; and be it further
14	
16	Sec. 4. Chair; meetings. Resolved: That the subcommittee shall select a chair from among its members. The subcommittee is
18	authorized to meet up to 8 times before reporting its findings and recommendations to the full Joint Standing Committee on
20	Judiciary; and be it further
22	Sec. 5. Report. Resolved: That the subcommittee report back to the full Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary and submit any
24	recommended legislation to the Legislature by November 1, 1995; and be it further
26	Sec. 6. Compensation. Resolved: That the subcommittee members
28	be reimbursed for their expenses only.
30	Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.
32	produitie, child reserve cares errece when approved.
34	STATEMENT OF FACT
36	This resolve authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary to form a 4-member subcommittee to review the Uniform
38	Adoption Act and report its findings and recommendations to the full Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary and the Legislature no
40	later than November 1, 1995.