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# **118th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

# FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

## Legislative Document

No. 1

S.P. 9

In Senate, January 7, 1997

An Act to Extend the Reporting Deadline for a Study by the Family Law Advisory Commission of the Statutes and Awards and Allocations Concerning Parental Rights and Responsibilities.

# (EMERGENCY)

Reported by Senator LAWRENCE of York on behalf of the Family Law Advisory Commission pursuant to Public Law 1995, chapter 694, Part A, section 16, subsection 4. Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 20.

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and 4

Whereas, the Family Law Advisory Commission is required
under Public Law 1995, chapter 694 to study the statutes and
practices of awards and allocations concerning parental rights
and responsibilities and report back to the joint standing
committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary
matters by December 15, 1996; and

12 Whereas, the law directs the Family Law Advisory Commission to seek input from the public and other interested parties; and 14

(j) - <sup>6</sup>

Whereas, the reporting deadline must be extended to allow16the Family Law Advisory Commission to hold a public hearing and<br/>complete its study with the benefit of public input and comment;18and

20 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of 22 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and 24 safety; now, therefore,

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

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Sec. 1. PL 1995, c. 694, Pt. A, §16, sub-§4 is amended to read:

30 The Family Law Advisory Commission shall submit 4. Report. a report, including any necessary implementing legislation, to 32 the Legislature and the joint standing committee of the having jurisdiction over judiciary Legislature matters by 34 December-15,-1996 January 30, 1997 for consideration in the First Regular Session of the 118th Legislature. The report must 36 include a summary of the study process, a list of participants and any recommendations, including any necessary implementing 38 legislation.

40 Sec. 2. Retroactivity. This Act takes effect retroactively to December 15, 1996.

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**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

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#### SUMMARY

This bill extends the reporting deadline for the Family Law 50 Advisory Commission's study on the statutes and practices of awards and allocations concerning parental rights and

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responsibilities to January 30, 1997. The extension allows the commission to hold a public hearing for the contribution of the public and other interested parties to the study process.