

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**JUDICIARY**

Reported by: Senator Longley

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
118TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 128, L.D. 407, Bill, "An Act to Revise Judicial Separation"

Amend the bill in section 4 by striking out all of the first line (page 1, line 22 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

**'Sec. 4. 19-A MRSA §851, sub-§§8 to 15 are enacted to read:'**

Further amend the bill in section 4 by inserting at the end the following:

'15. Fraud. The court may not grant a judicial separation when the parties seek to procure a judicial separation for fraudulent purposes.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

**'FISCAL NOTE**

This bill may increase the number of civil suits filed in the court system. The additional workload and administrative costs associated with the minimal number of new cases filed can be absorbed within the budgeted resources of the Judicial Department. The collection of additional filing fees may also

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increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

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#### SUMMARY

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This amendment prohibits the court from granting a judicial separation when the parties are seeking the judicial separation for fraudulent purposes. This is consistent with the divorce statute.

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