

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. & S.

L.D. 1673

DATE: 5-9-97

(Filing No. H-430)

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1182, L.D. 1673, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act"

Amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "~~S4008-A.~~" in subsection 1 in the 2nd line (page 1, line 8 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "commissioner" the following: ',with the advice of the Attorney General,'

Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "~~S4008-A.~~" in subsection 2 by striking out all of paragraph A (page 1, line 36 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'A. The name and age of the abused or neglected child. If the child is under 13 years of age, the guardian ad litem must agree with the commissioner to release the information. If the child is 13 years of age or older, the guardian ad litem and the child must agree with the commissioner to release the information;'

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

FISCAL NOTE

The additional costs associated with releasing certain information to the public can be absorbed by the Department of

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1182, L.D. 1673

Human Services utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

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SUMMARY

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This amendment allows the Attorney General to advise the Commissioner of Human Services in making a decision whether to release child welfare information. It adds the age of the child to information that may be released. The amendment requires agreement of the guardian ad litem and the commissioner for children under 13 years of age and agreement of the guardian ad litem, the child and the commissioner for children 13 years of age or older when the information released contains the name and age of the child. It also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

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