

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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A.C.S.

DATE: 5-4-99

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JUDICIARY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 297, L.D. 405, Bill, "An Act to Require That the State of Maine Comply with Federal Public Law 96-272, the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Require that the State of Maine Comply with Federal Law Requiring Reasonable Efforts'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 1 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Compliance and report. The Department of Human Services shall comply with 42 United States Code, Chapter 7, Subchapter IV, Part E, as amended. The department shall report the details of the State's compliance status, giving particular attention to the requirements concerning reasonable efforts on the State's part to keep families intact, to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary by December 15, 1999.'

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

'FISCAL NOTE

The Department of Human Services will incur some minor additional costs to report on the State's compliance status. These costs can be absorbed by the department utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

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6 This amendment corrects the title of the bill. It also
8 changes the charge to the Department of Human Services to direct
10 the department to comply with specific federal laws concerning
12 child protective services programs and state responsibilities.
14 It requires the department to report back to the Joint Standing
Committee on Judiciary by December 15, 1999 on the status of the
State's compliance with the federal law. The report must provide
information specifically about the State's actions with regard to
the reasonable efforts requirement concerning keeping families
intact rather than removing children from the home.