

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 595

S.P. 206

In Senate, January 21, 1999

An Act to Require the Department of Human Services to Pay Legal Expenses in Custody Cases When the Department of Human Services Loses.

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LIBBY of York.

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

2

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4036, sub-§1, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1979, c.
4 733, §18, is amended to read:

6

A. No change in custody , in which case the department
shall pay the parents' or guardians' reasonable attorney's
8 fees and costs incurred in the defense of the action;

10

SUMMARY

12

This bill requires the Department of Human Services to pay
14 the parents' or guardians' legal costs in child protection cases
in which the court determines in a hearing that there should be
16 no change in custody.