

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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27  
H. 015

L.D. 1243

DATE: 5/17/99

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 886, L.D. 1243, Bill, "An Act to Strengthen the Kinship Laws"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4062, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

4. Kinship preference. In the residential placement of a child, the department shall consider giving preference to an adult relative over a nonrelated caregiver when determining placement for a child, as long as the related caregiver meets all relevant state child protection standards.'

**SUMMARY**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee.

This amendment revises the bill to be consistent with federal law concerning the placement of children with relatives rather than with foster parents who are not related to the child. This language requires the Department of Human Services to consider placing a child with a relative rather than an unrelated foster family, as long as the relative meets all the relevant child protection standards that apply to foster care.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**