

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1623

H.P. 1138

House of Representatives, March 2, 1999

An Act to Provide Services for Children in Need of Supervision.

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: KANE of Saco, O'BRIEN of Augusta, QUINT of Portland,
SHIAH of Bowdoinham, TOWNSEND of Portland, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, TRUE of
Fryeburg, WATSON of Farmingdale.

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

4 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 1071, sub-c. 14 is enacted to read:

6 **SUBCHAPTER XIV**

8 **CHILDREN IN NEED OF SERVICES PROGRAM**

10 **§4095. Definitions**

12 As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

14 1. Court. "Court" means the Family Division of District Court.

16 2. Intake officer. "Intake officer" means an agent of the department authorized to perform all casework functions established by this subchapter for a child alleged to be in need of supervision. "Intake officer" may include community-based agencies contracted by the department.

22 **§4096. Program**

24 1. Established. The Children in Need of Services Program is established for any child 15 years of age and under who:

28 A. Has been abandoned or abused by the child's parents, guardian or other custodian;

30 B. Is without proper care or subsistence, education or medical or other care necessary for the child's well-being; or

34 C. Is without or beyond the control of the child's parents, guardian or other custodian.

36 **§4097. Preliminary investigation; safety plan; actions**

38 1. Preliminary investigation. When an intake officer is informed by a parent, law enforcement officer, school official, social service professional or mental health professional that a child is or may be in need of supervision, the intake officer shall make a preliminary investigation within 72 hours to determine whether further action should be taken.

40 2. Safety plan. If a child is determined to be in need of services, the intake officer, within 72 hours from that determination, shall develop a safety plan and arrange for the child services consisting of housing, medical care, nutritional care and education.

