MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 447

H.P. 357

House of Representatives, February 1, 2001

Millient M. Mac Failand

Resolve, Authorizing Sharon Huff and Raymond Huff to Sue the State.

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative O'NEIL of Saco.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BRANNIGAN of Portland, DUDLEY of Portland, MENDROS of Lewiston, O'BRIEN of Augusta, QUINT of Portland, RICHARDSON of

Brunswick, Senator: McALEVEY of York.

Sec. 1. Sharon Huff and Raymond Huff authorized to sue the State. Resolved: That, notwithstanding any statute or common law to the contrary, Sharon Huff and Raymond Huff, individually and on behalf of their minor daughter, Kristina Huff, who claim to have suffered damages as a result of the Department of Human Services' placement of Richard J. Huff into their household, are authorized to bring a civil action against the State.

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This action may be brought in the York County Superior Court within one year from the enactment of this resolve. Liability and damages, including punitive damages, must be determined according to state law as in litigation between individuals. This action may be heard by a Justice of the Superior Court or by a jury. The Maine Rules of Civil Procedure govern the conduct of the action. The Attorney General shall appear, answer and defend the action.

The Treasurer of State shall pay any judgment, including costs and interest, on final process issued by the Superior Court or, if applicable, the Supreme Judicial Court.

SUMMARY

This resolve authorizes Sharon Huff and Raymond Huff, individually and on behalf of their minor daughter, Kristina Huff, to bring a civil action against the State for damages resulting from the alleged negligence of the Department of Human Services concerning the placement of Richard J. Huff in their household.