

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2004

Legislative Document

No. 1797

H.P. 1319

House of Representatives, December 22, 2003

An Act To Clarify the Standards for Granting a Name Change

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 17, 2003. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative MILLS of Farmington.
Cosponsored by Representatives: LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach, RICHARDSON of Brunswick, Senator: DOUGLASS of Androscoggin.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 18-A MRSA §1-701, sub-§§(e) and (f) are enacted to read:**

6 (e) The judge may assess against the person seeking a name
change the cost of a criminal history record check, a motor
8 vehicle record check, a credit check or any combination of these
that the court may require.

10 (f) The judge may not change the name of the person if the
12 judge has reason to believe that the person is seeking the name
change for purposes of defrauding another person or entity or for
14 purposes otherwise contrary to the public interest.

16 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill allows a judge to require a criminal history
20 record check, motor vehicle record check or credit check for any
22 person who seeks a name change and to assess the cost of any such
check against the person. The bill also prohibits a name change
if the judge has reason to believe the change is for fraudulent
purposes or against the public interest.