

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 591

H.P. 424

House of Representatives, February 3, 2005

### **An Act To Clarify the Provisions for Child Support Orders Providing Health Insurance for Children**

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Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative TARDY of Newport.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BRYANT-DESCHENES of Turner, CARR of Lincoln,  
MILLS of Farmington, PELLETIER-SIMPSON of Auburn.

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

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**Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §1653, sub-§8, ¶C,** as enacted by PL 1995, c. 694, Pt. B, §2 and affected by Pt. E, §2, is amended to read:

6 C. The court may require the payment of part or all of the  
8 medical expenses, hospital expenses and other health care  
10 expenses of the child. The court order must include a  
12 provision requiring ~~the-obligated~~ at least one parent to  
14 obtain and maintain health insurance coverage for medical,  
16 hospitalization and dental expenses, if reasonable cost  
18 health insurance is available to ~~the-obligated~~ that parent.  
20 The court order must also require the ~~obligated~~ parent  
22 providing insurance to furnish proof of coverage to the  
24 ~~obligee other parent~~ within 15 days of receipt of a copy of  
the court order. If reasonable cost health insurance is not  
available at the time of the hearing, the court order must  
establish the obligation to provide health insurance on the  
part of ~~the--obligated~~ at least one parent, effective  
immediately upon reasonable cost health insurance being  
available.

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**SUMMARY**

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28 Current law presumes that the parent paying child support  
also provides health insurance for the child. This bill allows  
the court to order either parent, or both, to provide health  
insurance coverage for the child.