MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document **No. 390**

H.P. 306 House of Representatives, January 26, 2007

**An Act To Allow the District Court To Adjudicate Parentage in
Child Protective Custody Cases**

Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

Millient M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative SIMPSON of Auburn.
Cosponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset.

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

2   **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4005-F** is enacted to read:

3   **§4005-F. Determinations of parentage**

4   As part of a child protection proceeding, the District Court may determine parentage
5   of the child. Title 19-A, sections 1558 to 1564 apply to determinations of parentage in a
6   child protection proceeding.

7   A determination pursuant to this section that a person is or is not a child's father
8   operates as a determination of parentage for all purposes inside and outside of the child
9   protection proceedings, including but not limited to proceedings pursuant to Title 19-A,
10   chapters 51 to 69.

11   This section may not be construed to limit the right of a person to file an action
12   pursuant to Title 19-A, chapter 53, subchapter 1 to enforce a father's obligations pursuant
13   to that subchapter.

14   **SUMMARY**

15   This bill gives the District Court the authority to determine parentage as part of a
16   child protection proceeding, and that determination is controlling in all subsequent
17   proceedings, including those established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 19-A
18   dealing with child custody, child support and similar actions.