

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 540

H.P. 418

House of Representatives, February 5, 2007

**An Act To Authorize a Court To Appoint Counsel in Protection
from Abuse Hearings**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FITTS of Pittsfield.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BRAUTIGAM of Falmouth, HOLMAN of Fayette,
ROBINSON of Raymond, TARDY of Newport.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §4005, sub-§6** is enacted to read:

3 **6. Court-appointed attorney.** The court may appoint an attorney at the State's
4 expense for an indigent defendant of a complaint filed under this section if the defendant
5 has other matters before a court or government agency that may be prejudiced by an
6 adverse ruling in the proceeding brought under this section.

7 **SUMMARY**

8 This bill allows a court to appoint an attorney at the State's expense for an indigent
9 defendant in a protection from abuse hearing if the defendant has other matters before a
10 court or government agency that may be prejudiced by an adverse ruling in the protection
11 from abuse hearing.