

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

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Legislative Document

No. 328

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H.P. 222

House of Representatives, February 10, 2015

**An Act To Allow Personal Representatives of Children Access to  
Certain Documents of the Department of Health and Human  
Services Regarding Child Protective Activities**

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Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative BLACK of Wilton.  
Cosponsored by Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin and  
Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, BUCKLAND of Farmington, CRAFTS of Lisbon,  
GILBERT of Jay, GREENWOOD of Wales, HANLEY of Pittston, STUCKEY of Portland,  
TIMBERLAKE of Turner.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4008, sub-§2, ¶J,** as amended by PL 2007, c. 140, §6, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 J. A person making a report of suspected abuse or neglect. The department may only  
5 disclose that it has not accepted the report for investigation, unless other disclosure  
6 provisions of this section apply; ~~and~~

7 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §4008, sub-§2, ¶K,** as enacted by PL 2007, c. 140, §7 and  
8 amended by PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §5, is further amended to read:

9 K. The local animal control officer or the animal welfare program of the Department  
10 of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry established pursuant to Title 7, section  
11 3902 when there is a reasonable suspicion of animal cruelty, abuse or neglect. For  
12 purposes of this paragraph, "cruelty, abuse or neglect" has the same meaning as  
13 provided in Title 34-B, section 1901, subsection 1, paragraph B; and

14 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §4008, sub-§2, ¶L** is enacted to read:

15 L. The personal representative of a child named in a record who is reported to be  
16 abused or neglected.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill allows the Department of Health and Human Services to disclose  
19 information regarding the abuse and neglect of a child to the personal representative of  
20 the child.