

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SMG  
ROBS

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L.D. 472

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Date: 6/8/17

(Filing No. H-462)

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

6

**128TH LEGISLATURE**

7

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

8

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 335,  
9 L.D. 472, Bill, "An Act Regarding Parental Rights"

10

Amend the amendment by striking out all of section 1 (page 1, lines 13 to 25 in  
11 amendment) and inserting the following:

12

'Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4003-A is enacted to read:

13

**§4003-A. Rights of parents**

14

**1. Parents joint natural guardians of children.** The parents are the joint natural  
15 guardians of their minor children and are jointly entitled to the care, custody, control,  
16 services and earnings of their children. Neither parent has any rights paramount to the  
17 rights of the other with reference to any matter affecting their children.

18

**2. Fundamental liberty interest.** A parent has a fundamental liberty interest in  
19 directing the care, custody and control of the parent's child.

20

**3. Government interference.** The State or any political subdivision of the State  
21 may not infringe the liberty interest in subsection 2 unless that infringement is justified by  
22 a compelling state interest and narrowly tailored to achieve that compelling state interest  
23 through the least restrictive means necessary.'

24

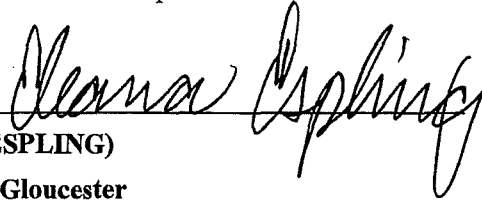
**SUMMARY**

25

This amendment amends Committee Amendment "A" to enact the language outlining  
26 the rights of parents in that portion of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22 that governs  
27 child and family services and child protection rather than in Title 19-A, which governs  
28 domestic relations.

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SPONSORED BY:



30

(Representative ESPLING)

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TOWN: New Gloucester

**HOUSE AMENDMENT**