

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

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EIGHTY - SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 680

S. P. 462

In Senate, March 1, 1935.

Reported by Sen. Burns of Aroostook from Committee on Judiciary and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
THIRTY-FIVE

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**AN ACT to Provide for the Investigation of Divorce Cases in Which the  
Custody of Children is Involved.**

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

**R. S., c. 73, amended.** Chapter 73 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by inserting after section 13 the following section to be numbered 13-A:

**'Sec. 13-A. Investigation of cases in which custody of children is involved.** Whenever in any divorce action the custody of a minor child is involved, and the court determines that the proper disposition of the case requires an investigation of the conditions and antecedents of the child and its parents for the purpose of determining the fitness of either parent to have custody of such child, the court may notify the state bureau of social welfare. It shall then be the duty of the bureau to make such an investigation and submit to the court a full report in writing with a recommendation as to the disposition of such child and any other information regarding the case which the court may require; provided, that within the discretion of the court the action may be continued to the succeeding term for the completion of such report. Such report shall be available for examination by counsel before a decree is made and upon request of any interested party the court shall require the person making the report to testify subject to cross-examination and to rebuttal.'