

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

Eighty-sixth and Eighty-seventh
Legislatures

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

From April 1, 1933, to April 6, 1935

AND MISCELLANEOUS STATE PAPERS

Published by the Secretary of State, in conjunction
with the Revisor of Statutes in accordance with the
Resolves of the Legislature approved June 28, 1820,
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1935

PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Eighty-Seventh Legislature

1935

[supplied from page 201 of volume]

Chapter 48.

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

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

R. S., c. 73, § 13, 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.'

Approved March 15, 1935.

Chapter 49.

AN ACT Relating to Proceedings in the Probate Court.

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

R. S., c. 80, § 37, amended. Section 37 of chapter 80 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 37. Proceedings in the probate court. Upon the filing of a petition for the adoption of a minor child the court may in its discretion notify the state bureau of social welfare. It shall then be the duty of the bureau, either through its own workers or through a delegated agency, to verify the allegations of the petition, to investigate the conditions and antecedents of the child for the purpose of ascertaining whether he is a proper subject for adoption; and to make appropriate inquiry to determine whether the proposed home is suitable for the child. This information shall, as soon as practicable, be submitted by the bureau to the court in writing with a