

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE  
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

**SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**

November 18, 1983

AND AT THE

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

January 4, 1984 to April 25, 1984

AND AT THE

**THIRD SPECIAL SESSION**

September 4, 1984 to September 11, 1984

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES  
ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

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J.S. McCarthy Co., Inc.  
Augusta, Maine  
1986

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**PUBLIC LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED AT THE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
of the  
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
JANUARY 4, 1984 TO APRIL 25, 1984

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Sec. 4. 19 MRSA §774, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 668, §6, is amended to read:

3. Order to employer or payor of earnings. The employer or other payor of earnings to make direct payments, if the court has ordered installment payments under section 773 or otherwise, such an order to have absolute priority over all previously filed orders against earnings and assignments of earnings not relating to enforcement of alimony, child support or costs;

Sec. 5. 26 MRSA §627 is amended by adding after the first paragraph a new paragraph to read:

An assignment of wages executed in satisfaction of a child support obligation shall have absolute priority over all previously filed orders against earnings entered pursuant to the Revised Statutes, Title 14, section 3137, and over any other assignment of wages, which orders and assignments were entered after the effective date of this paragraph.

Effective July 25, 1984.

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## CHAPTER 783

S.P. 881 - L.D. 2386

### AN ACT Amending the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4005, sub-§1, ¶A, as repealed and replaced by PL 1983, c. 183, is amended to read:

A. The court, in every child protection proceeding except a request for a preliminary protection order under section 4034 or a petition for a medical treatment order under section 4071, but including hearings on those orders, shall appoint a guardian ad litem for the child. His reasonable costs and expenses shall be paid by the District Court. The appointment shall be made as soon as possible after the proceeding is initiated.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §4005, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 733, §18, is amended to read:

2. Parents. Parents and custodians are entitled to legal counsel in child protection proceedings, except a request for a preliminary protection order under section 4034 or a petition for a medical treatment order under section 4071, but including hearings on those orders. They may request the court to appoint legal counsel for them. The court, if it finds them indigent, shall appoint and pay the reasonable costs and expenses of their legal counsel.

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §4007, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

4. Records. Records released by the department pursuant to section 4008 shall be used only for the purposes for which that release was intended.

Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §4008, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

4. Unlawful dissemination; penalty. A person is guilty of unlawful dissemination if he knowingly disseminates records which are determined confidential by this section, in violation of the mandatory or optional disclosure provisions of this section. Unlawful dissemination is a Class E crime, which, notwithstanding Title 17-A, section 4-A, subsection 4, is punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days.

Sec. 5. 22 MRSA §4014, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 733, §18, is amended to read:

1. Reporting and proceedings. A person participating in good faith in reporting under this subchapter, or participating in a related child protection investigation or proceeding, is immune from any criminal or civil liability that might otherwise result from these actions for the act of reporting or participating in the investigation or proceeding. Nothing in this section may be construed to bar criminal or civil action regarding perjury or regarding the abuse or neglect which led to a report, investigation or proceeding.