

## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND NINETEEN

H.P. 1011 - L.D. 1397

**An Act Regarding the Admissibility of Certain Statements of Juveniles****Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §3204, first ¶**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 624, Pt. B, §7, is further amended to read:

Statements of a juvenile or of a juvenile's parents, guardian or legal custodian made to a juvenile community corrections officer during the course of a preliminary investigation ~~or made to a community resolution team under section 3304~~ are not admissible in evidence at an adjudicatory hearing against that juvenile if a petition based on the same facts is later filed.

**Sec. 2. 15 MRSA §3204**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 624, Pt. B, §7, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

Statements of a juvenile or of a juvenile's parents, guardian or legal custodian made to a juvenile community corrections officer during an informal adjustment or during a restorative justice program or made to a clinical provider during substance use disorder, sexual behavior or mental health assessment or treatment attended by the juvenile are not admissible in evidence during the State's case in chief at an adjudicatory hearing against that juvenile on a petition based on the same facts that caused the referral for informal adjustment, restorative justice, assessment or treatment.

Statements of a juvenile or of a juvenile's parents, guardian or legal custodian made during school disciplinary proceedings, including but not limited to manifestation determinations, special education meetings, suspension meetings or expulsion hearings, are not admissible in evidence during the State's case in chief at an adjudicatory hearing against the juvenile on a petition based on the same facts that caused the need for the school disciplinary proceedings.

As used in this section, "restorative justice program" means a program in which offenders take responsibility for causing harm and engage in a facilitated process with victims, family members, community members or advocates and others impacted by the harm that focuses on repairing the harm, addressing needs and preventing future harm.