



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND SPECIAL SESSION-2018

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Legislative Document

No. 1922

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S.P. 756

In Senate, August 30, 2018

### **An Act To Amend the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act**

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Received by the Secretary of the Senate on August 20, 2018. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4003, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 731, Pt. AA, §3, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 **3. Rehabilitation and reunification.** ~~Give family rehabilitation and reunification~~  
5 ~~priority~~ Require that reasonable efforts be made to rehabilitate and reunify families as a  
6 means for protecting the welfare of children, but prevent needless delay for permanent  
7 plans for children when rehabilitation and reunification is not possible;

8 **SUMMARY**

9 This bill amends the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act to require  
10 that reasonable efforts be made to rehabilitate and reunify families as a means for  
11 protecting the welfare of children. Current law requires giving family rehabilitation and  
12 reunification priority as a means for protecting the welfare of children.