

129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 187

H.P. 150

House of Representatives, January 17, 2019

An Act To Restore the Laws Governing the Reunification of Parents and Children

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

R(+ B. Hunt

Presented by Representative GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach.

Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and

Representatives: BEEBE-CENTER of Rockland, BRENNAN of Portland, CRAVEN of Lewiston, DOUDERA of Camden, MADIGAN of Waterville, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, MORALES of South Portland, Senator: CHENETTE of York.

1	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
2 3	Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4003, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2017, c. 470, §1, is further amended to read:
4	3. Rehabilitation and reunification as a priority. Require that reasonable efforts
5	be made to rehabilitate and reunify families Give family rehabilitation and reunification
6	priority as a means for protecting the welfare of children, but prevent needless delay for
7	permanent plans for children when rehabilitation and reunification is not possible;
8	SUMMARY
9	Recently enacted law eliminated language that established as a priority under the
10	Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act family rehabilitation and
11	reunification. This bill restores family rehabilitation and reunification as a priority under
12	the laws governing child protective services.

12