

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Prevent Disclosure of Certain Identifying Information in Child Protective and Other Court Proceedings'

Amend the bill by inserting after the enacting clause the following:

'**Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §8-B** is enacted to read:

§ 8-B. Rules governing nondisclosure of certain identifying information

1. Nondisclosure of certain identifying information. The Supreme Judicial Court may prescribe, repeal, add to, amend or modify rules or orders providing for a procedure in all courts through which a party is given the right to request that certain identifying information not be disclosed.

2. No contact order; allegation or pleading. Rules and orders developed pursuant to subsection 1 may allow:

A. A party or participant to notify the court in any case of the existence of any court orders in effect at the time of the proceeding that prohibit contact between the parties and participants; and

B. A party or participant to allege in an affidavit or a pleading under oath that the health, safety or liberty of the person would be jeopardized by disclosure of information pertaining to the person's current or intended address or location.

3. Evidence; records. Rules and orders under this section may address the sealing, disclosure and redaction of evidence and records, including circumstances in which the information to be treated as confidential is a material fact necessary to the proceeding.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment retains the provisions of the bill and adds general language to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 4 that pertains to the Supreme Judicial Court adopting rules that protect, in any court in any case, a party's or participant's address or location information if a no contact order exists or the party or participant submits an allegation or pleading under oath that the person's health, safety or liberty would be jeopardized by the disclosure of that information.