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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1400  
TTY: (207) 287-4469

**Patricia Hymanson**

34 High Pine Road  
York, ME 03909

Phone: (207) 363-8353

[patricia.hymanson@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:patricia.hymanson@legislature.maine.gov)

March 2, 2018

Government Oversight Committee  
82 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0082

Re: Request for Investigation

TO: Sen. Roger Katz, Chair  
Rep. Anne-Marie Mastraccio, Chair  
Government Oversight Committee

FROM: Rep. Patty Hymanson, MD  
Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee

In my capacity as House Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, I respectfully request that your committee conduct a full review of the child protection process within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). I believe that this investigation is necessary in light of the tragic deaths of both Kendall Chick, age 4, and Marissa Kennedy, age 10. In conducting this review, it would be prudent for your committee to examine the role, if any, that DHHS, Child Protective Services or any other government agency within your jurisdiction, had in the safety and well-being of these children.

It is of tremendous importance that the existing child protective laws and system are adequately and consistently protecting the children they were designed to serve. Both of these horrific and senseless cases of abuse warrant a thorough investigation of the processes at DHHS to ensure the highest level of standards and systems were followed. It is of the utmost importance that we have a full understanding of the Child Protective Services duties, especially when it relates to the most defenseless among us, children suffering from abuse and neglect.

I urge you to both accept and expedite this request.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patty Hymanson".

Rep. Patty Hymanson, MD