

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

H.P. 516 - L.D. 809

**An Act to Allow a Motion to Extend a Protection from Abuse Order After
Expiration of the Original Order**

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

Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §4110, sub-§5, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 647, Pt. A, §3 and affected by Pt. B, §65, is amended to read:

A. A final protection order issued under this chapter must be for a fixed period not to exceed 2 years, unless extended or reinstated by the court pursuant to section 4111.

Sec. 2. 19-A MRSA §4111, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Extension after expiration. The court may reinstate and extend a final protection order issued under this chapter after expiration, upon motion of the plaintiff, only if the court finds:

A. That the plaintiff has shown good cause for filing the motion to extend a final protection order after expiration of the order, which may include that the filing was not timely due to a dismissal of a prior motion to extend because of an inability to serve the defendant; and

B. That the filing under this subsection was made within a reasonable amount of time based upon the underlying circumstances.

If the court makes findings for the plaintiff under paragraphs A and B, the court may reinstate the final protection order that has expired until a hearing under section 4109, subsection 1 on the motion to extend and shall apply the standard in subsection 1 to determine whether an extension of the final protection order is necessary to protect the plaintiff or minor child from abuse or conduct specified in section 4103.