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Date: (Filing No. H-)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 442, L.D. 606, “An Act Regarding the Child Protection System”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4004, sub-§1, ¶C, as amended by PL 1993, c. 294, §1, is further amended to read:

C. Cooperating and coordinating with other agencies, facilities or persons providing related services to families and children throughout the period of time the department is involved with a family and child;

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §4004, sub-§2, ¶B-1 is enacted to read:

B-1. Establish and maintain a policy that requires, to the greatest extent possible under applicable federal and state confidentiality laws, that caseworkers receive information throughout the period of time the department is involved with a family and child directly from any agencies, facilities or persons involved with or providing services to the family and child in order to:

- (1) Coordinate adequate access to resources for a family and child; and
- (2) Inform the ongoing risk and safety assessment of the child;

Sec. 3. Report. The Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services shall present the policy established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 4004, subsection 2, paragraph B-1 to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than March 1, 2022. The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services is authorized to report out legislation relating to the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.'

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This bill, which is the unanimous report of the committee, accomplishes the following. It provides that the Department of Health and Human Services may cooperate and coordinate with service providers throughout the period of time the department is involved with a family and child. It requires the department to establish and maintain a policy that requires caseworkers to receive information throughout the period of time the department is involved with a family and child directly from the providers in order to coordinate resources and inform the risk and safety assessment of the child. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by March 1, 2022 on the policy and authorizes the committee to report out legislation related to the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.