

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 inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, orders or judgments from other states must be filed in Maine to be upheld by law enforcement and Maine courts; and

Whereas, current Maine law requires the person filing a judgment from another state to pay the court fees, including registering, docketing, transcription and other enforcement fees; and

Whereas, the federal Violence Against Women Act prohibits the assessment of fees for such orders; and

Whereas, Maine law needs to be amended as soon as possible to comply with the federal law and to avoid jeopardizing certain federal funds that the State currently receives; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,'

Amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.'

SUMMARY

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill.