

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

## **An Act Regarding the Reporting Standards for Child Abuse**

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

**Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4011-A, sub-§7**, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 268, §1, is amended to read:

**7. Children under 6 months of age or otherwise nonambulatory.** A person required to make a report under subsection 1 shall report to the department if a child who is under 6 months of age or otherwise nonambulatory exhibits evidence of the following:

- A. Fracture of a bone;
- B. Substantial bruising or multiple bruises;
- C. Subdural hematoma;
- D. Burns;
- E. Poisoning; or
- F. Injury resulting in substantial bleeding, soft tissue swelling or impairment of an organ.

This subsection does not require the reporting of injuries occurring as a result of the delivery of a child attended by a licensed medical practitioner.

### **SUMMARY**

The bill creates an exception to the law mandating a report to the Department of Health and Human Services of suspected abuse or neglect of a child under 6 months of age for injuries occurring during birth when the delivery is attended by a licensed medical practitioner.