



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1150

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H.P. 755

House of Representatives, March 20, 2025

### **An Act to Require Reporting of Sheltering or Aiding Missing Children**

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Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2157** is enacted to read:

3 **§2157. Sheltering or aiding missing child**

4 **1. Duty to inform law enforcement officer.** If a person knowingly shelters or aids  
5 in obtaining shelter for a missing child for more than 24 hours without the consent of the  
6 missing child's parent, guardian or legal custodian, the person shall inform a law  
7 enforcement officer as to the missing child's location and condition if the law enforcement  
8 officer contacts that person as part of the investigation of the missing child.

9 **2. Violation.** A person who violates subsection 1 is subject to a civil penalty not to  
10 exceed \$250.

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This bill requires that if a person knowingly shelters or aids in obtaining shelter for a  
13 missing child for more than 24 hours without the consent of the missing child's parent,  
14 guardian or legal custodian, the person must provide information regarding the missing  
15 child's location and condition to a law enforcement officer who has contacted that person.  
16 A person who violates this provision is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$250.