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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**JUDICIARY**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
126TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 122, L.D. 147, Bill, “An Act Regarding Consent for Adoption”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act Regarding Adoption'**

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

**'Sec. 1. 18-A MRSA §9-308, sub-§(a)**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 694, Pt. C, §7 and affected by Pt. E, §2, is amended to read:

**(a).** The court shall grant a final decree of adoption if the petitioner who filed the petition has been heard or has waived hearing and the court is satisfied from the hearing or record that:

- (1). All necessary consents, relinquishments or terminations of parental rights have been duly executed and filed with the court;
- (2). An adoption study, when required by section 9-304, has been filed with the court;
- (3). A list of all disbursements as required by section 9-306 has been filed with the court;
- (4). The petitioner is a suitable adopting parent and desires to establish a parent and child relationship with the adoptee;
- (5). The best interests of the adoptee are served by the adoption; and
- (6). All other requirements of this article have been met.'

**SUMMARY**

This amendment replaces the bill and provides that the Probate Court may not issue a final decree of adoption unless the petitioner who filed the petition has been heard or has

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 waived the opportunity for a hearing and the court is satisfied that all the current statutory  
2 requirements are met.