LAW WITHOUT GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE

**CHAPTER** 

198

JUNE 16, 2015

PUBLIC LAW

#### **STATE OF MAINE**

# IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

### **TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN**

# H.P. 222 - L.D. 328

# An Act To Allow Personal Representatives of Children Access to Certain Documents of the Department of Health and Human Services Regarding **Child Protective Activities**

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4008, sub-§2, ¶J, as amended by PL 2007, c. 140, §6, is further amended to read:

J. A person making a report of suspected abuse or neglect. The department may only disclose that it has not accepted the report for investigation, unless other disclosure provisions of this section apply; and

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §4008, sub-§2, ¶K, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 140, §7 and amended by PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §5, is further amended to read:

K. The local animal control officer or the animal welfare program of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry established pursuant to Title 7, section 3902 when there is a reasonable suspicion of animal cruelty, abuse or neglect. For purposes of this paragraph, "cruelty, abuse or neglect" has the same meaning as provided in Title 34-B, section 1901, subsection 1, paragraph B-; and

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §4008, sub-§2, ¶L is enacted to read:

L. The personal representative of the estate of a child named in a record who is reported to be abused or neglected.