

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

S.P. 405 - L.D. 950

**An Act to Increase Access to Protection from Abuse Orders by Allowing
Children to File Protection from Abuse Orders on Their Own Behalf**

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

Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §4103, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2023, c. 298, §§4 to 6, is further amended to read:

2. ~~Minor-child~~ Child. A child, a person responsible for a child, as defined in Title 22, section 4002, subsection 9, or a representative of the department when a ~~minor~~ child has been:

- A. A victim of abuse as defined in section 4102, subsection 1 by a family or household member, a dating partner or an individual related by consanguinity or affinity; or
- B. A victim of conduct:
 - (1) Described as stalking in Title 17-A, section 210-A;
 - (2) Constituting any crime described in Title 17-A, chapter 11;
 - (3) Described as unauthorized dissemination of certain private images in Title 17-A, section 511-A;
 - (4) Described as aggravated sex trafficking or sex trafficking in Title 17-A, section 852 or 853, respectively;
 - (5) Described as sexual exploitation of a minor or dissemination of sexually explicit material in Title 17-A, section 282 or 283, respectively;
 - (6) Described as harassment by telephone or by electronic communication device in Title 17-A, section 506, subsection 1, paragraph A-1 or A-2; or
 - (7) Constituting a civil cause of action under Title 14, section 8305.

For purposes of this paragraph, the conduct need not have been perpetrated by a family or household member, a dating partner or an individual related by consanguinity or affinity;