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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. 1039, L.D. 1445, Bill, “An Act To Facilitate Children's Testimony”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §1321 in subsection 2 in paragraph C in the last line (page 1, line 25 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "well-being;" the following: 'and'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §1321 in subsection 2 in paragraph D in the last line (page 1, line 27 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "exist; and" and inserting the following: 'exist.'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §1321 in subsection 2 by striking out all of paragraph E (page 1, lines 28 and 29 in L.D.)

Amend the bill by adding after section 1 the following:

'Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063

Initiative: Provides funds for one Assistant Clerk position, one System Support Specialist position and equipment costs necessary to accommodate testimony of a child outside the presence of the defendant.

| GENERAL FUND | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT | 2.000 | 2.000 |
| Personal Services | \$119,328 | \$143,194 |
| All Other | \$197,600 | \$19,200 |
| GENERAL FUND TOTAL | \$316,928 | \$162,394 |

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. It removes from the bill the provision providing that the court, before allowing special procedures for a child's testimony, must find that the constitutional rights of the defendant are outweighed. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)