

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill in section 1 in paragraph C by inserting after subparagraph (1) the following:

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(2) The department caseworker shall discuss the circumstances of the interview and any relevant information regarding the alleged abuse or neglect with the child's teacher or guidance counselor or the school's nurse, social worker or principal, as the caseworker determines is necessary for the provision of any needed emotional support to the child prior to and following the interview.

Amend the bill in section 1 in paragraph C in subparagraph (2) in division (c) (page 1, line 19 in L.D) by inserting after the following: "parent" the following: 'or guardian'

Amend the bill in section 1 in paragraph C by renumbering the subparagraphs to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

The amendment requires a department caseworker to discuss a child's circumstances with school officials as necessary for the provision of emotional support to the child prior to and following a child protective intervention interview. It also adds the word "guardian" to the provision of the bill that prohibits school officials from requiring notice or consent from a parent.