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CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
125TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1224, L.D. 1634, Bill, “An Act To Establish Certain Crimes Relating to Missing or Deceased Children”

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1 and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §558 is enacted to read:

§558. Failure to report a missing child

1. A person is guilty of failure to report a missing child if that person, being a parent, foster parent, guardian or other person having the care and custody of a child who is in fact under 13 years of age, knowingly fails to notify a law enforcement agency of that child's disappearance within 48 hours of becoming aware that the child is missing.

2. Failure to report a missing child is a Class D crime.'

SUMMARY

This amendment is the minority report. It amends the bill to restrict those responsible for reporting a missing child to the parent, foster parent, guardian or other person having the care and custody of the child. The amendment provides that a responsible person is guilty of failing to report a missing child if that person knowingly failed to notify a law enforcement agency within 48 hours of becoming aware that the child is missing. It also changes the class of the crime from a Class C crime to a Class D crime.

The amendment removes provisions of the bill regarding the failure to cooperate in the investigation of the death of a child.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT