

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

H.P. 83 - L.D. 137

An Act to Amend the Maine Parentage Act Regarding Joinder of Parties

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

Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §1836, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 296, Pt. A, §1 and affected by Pt. D, §1, is amended to read:

§1836. Parties to proceeding

~~In addition to a child whose parentage is to be adjudicated a proceeding to adjudicate the parentage of a child, all parents of the child must be joined as parties in a proceeding to adjudicate parentage.~~

Sec. 2. 19-A MRSA §1844, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 296, Pt. A, §1 and affected by Pt. D, §1, is amended to read:

2. Adjudication in divorce, annulment or legal separation proceeding ~~to dissolve marriage or proceeding to establish parental rights~~. In a proceeding ~~for divorce, for legal separation, to dissolve annul~~ a marriage ~~or to establish parental rights and responsibilities~~, the court is deemed to have made an adjudication of the parentage of a child if the court acts under circumstances that satisfy the jurisdictional requirements of section 2961 and the final order:

- A. Expressly identifies a child as a "child of the ~~marriage parties~~" or "issue of the marriage" or by similar words indicates that the parties are the parents of the child; or
- B. Provides for support of the child by the parent or parents.