1	L.D. 375
2	Date: (Filing No. S-)
3	JUDICIARY
4	Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.
5	STATE OF MAINE
6	SENATE
7	126TH LEGISLATURE
8	FIRST REGULAR SESSION
9 10 11	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "" to S.P. 155, L.D. 375, Bill, "An Act To Require the State To Enforce Spousal Support Obligations in the Same Manner as Child Support Obligations"
12	Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:
13 14	'Resolve, To Establish the Study Committee on Alternative Methods of Enforcement of Spousal Support'
15 16	Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:
17 18	'Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and
19 20	Whereas, the Study Committee on Alternative Methods of Enforcement of Spousal Support will review methods of spousal support enforcement in other states; and
21 22 23	Whereas, the study must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that the study may be completed and a report submitted in time for submission to the next legislative session; and
24 25 26 27	Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it
28 29 30 31	Sec. 1. Study committee established. Resolved: That, not withstanding Joint Rule 353, the Study Committee on Alternative Methods of Enforcement of Spousal Support, referred to in this resolve as "the study committee," is established; and be it further
32 33	Sec. 2. Study committee membership. Resolved: That the study committee consists of 5 members appointed as follows:

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1 1. Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including 2 members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature; 3 and

2. Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
House, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats
in the Legislature; and be it further

7 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate 8 chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the 9 study committee; and be it further

10 Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of study committee. Resolved: That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this 11 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative 12 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members, 13 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the study committee. If 30 days or 14 more after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have 15 been made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant 16 17 authority for the study committee to meet and conduct its business; and be it further

18 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the study committee shall review information 19 about other states' approaches to the enforcement of spousal support and determine 20 whether any of those methods of enforcement should be implemented in this State; and be 21 it further

22 Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved: That the Legislative Council shall provide 23 necessary staffing services to the study committee; and be it further

Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That, no later than November 6, 2013, the study committee shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. The Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary may introduce a bill on the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
 legislation takes effect when approved.'

SUMMARY 31 32 This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve that establishes the Study Committee on Alternative Methods of Enforcement of Spousal Support to examine how other states 33 provide for enforcement of spousal support. The study committee consists of 5 34 Legislators, and must report by November 6, 2013 to the Joint Standing Committee on 35 36 Judiciary on spousal support enforcement methods used in other states and whether any 37 of these methods should be implemented in this State. 38 This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill.

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