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Date: (Filing No. S-)

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

SENATE AMENDMENT “ ” to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “A” to S.P. 297, L.D. 872, Bill, “An Act To Improve the Quality of Guardian ad Litem Services for the Children and Families of Maine”

Amend the amendment in section 1 in §1552 in subsection 2 in the first line (page 2, line 1 in amendment) by striking out the following: "**and Title 22**"

Amend the amendment in section 1 in §1552 in subsection 2 in the 2nd line (page 2, line 2 in amendment) by striking out the following: "and Title 22"

Amend the amendment in section 1 in §1552 by inserting after subsection 4 the following:

'5. Effective date. This section takes effect January 1, 2015.'

Amend the amendment in section 4 in the first 2 lines (page 7, lines 28 and 29 in amendment) by striking out the following: "Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary by February 15, 2014" and inserting the following: 'joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters by February 15, 2017'

Amend the amendment by striking out all of section 5 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063

Initiative: Provides funds for one Family Process Specialist position and one part-time Administrative Assistant position and related costs effective January 1, 2015 to provide oversight of guardians ad litem.

GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	0.000	1.500
Personal Services	\$0	\$57,555
All Other	\$0	\$32,445

SENATE AMENDMENT

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GENERAL FUND TOTAL _____ \$0 _____ \$90,000

Sec. 6. Effective date. Those sections of this Act that require the judicial branch to develop and implement a post-judgment evaluation policy and process to collect and analyze data and that require the Chief Judge of the District Court to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters take effect January 1, 2015.'

SUMMARY

This amendment removes guardians ad litem appointed under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22 from the provisions covering data reporting, standardized billing and other administrative requirements. It establishes January 1, 2015 as the effective date for the provisions of the bill that address the administration of guardians ad litem, the post-judgment evaluation policy and the reporting requirement. It also replaces the appropriations and allocations section to provide funding for one full-time position and one part-time position for the Judicial Department.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

SPONSORED BY: _____

(Senator HILL)

COUNTY: York