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Legislative Document

No. 61

H.P. 27

House of Representatives, January 13, 2021

An Act To Include Grandparents under Maine's Family Medical Leave Laws

(EMERGENCY)

Received by the Clerk of the House on January 11, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Labor and Housing pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative STEARNS of Guilford.
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and
Representatives: COREY of Windham, FAY of Raymond, LANDRY of Farmington, TUELL
of East Machias, Senator: GUERIN of Penobscot.

1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** this legislation allows an employee to request family medical leave to care
4 for a grandchild who has a serious health condition; and

5 **Whereas,** this legislation needs to take effect as soon as possible in order to allow
6 grandparents to take family medical leave in order to care for their grandchildren, especially
7 in light of the increasing number of COVID-19 cases; and

8 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
9 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
10 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
11 therefore,

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

13 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §843, sub-§4, ¶D,** as repealed and replaced by PL 2007, c. 519,
14 §1, is amended to read:

15 D. A child, domestic partner's child, grandchild, domestic partner's grandchild, parent,
16 domestic partner, sibling or spouse with a serious health condition;

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

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill allows a grandparent to request employee family medical leave in order to
21 care for a grandchild who has a serious health condition.