

IN RE A.R.

Submitted on Briefs July 23, 2015

Decided August 4, 2015

Panel: SAUFLEY, C.J., and ALEXANDER, MEAD, GORMAN, JABAR, and HUMPHREY, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The mother of A.R. appeals from a judgment of the District Court (Presque Isle, *O'Mara, J.*) terminating her parental rights. *See* 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(A)(1)(a), (B)(2) (2014). The trial court found, and the record supports its finding that, notwithstanding the mother's love for her child, she has not been able to overcome her lengthy history of addiction, which predates the birth of the child,<sup>1</sup> and, as a result, is unable to care for the child.

Contrary to the mother's contentions, (1) competent evidence in the record supports the court's finding, by clear and convincing evidence, of at least one ground of parental unfitness, *see In re Thomas D.*, 2004 ME 104, ¶ 21, 854 A.2d 195, and (2) the court did not commit clear error or abuse its discretion in determining that termination of the mother's parental rights was in the child's best interest, *see In re Thomas H.*, 2005 ME 123, ¶¶ 16-17, 889 A.2d 297.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

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<sup>1</sup> The court also found that the child "was born drug affected."

**On the briefs:**

Christine M. Smith, Esq., Presque Isle, for appellant mother

Janet T. Mills, Attorney General, and Christopher C. Leighton,  
Asst. Atty. Gen., Office of the Attorney General, Portland, for  
appellee Department of Health and Human Services

Presque Isle District Court docket number PC-2013-15  
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