

IN RE LEONARD G.

Submitted on Briefs May 26, 2016

Decided June 2, 2016

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

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The father of Leonard G. appeals from a judgment of the District Court (Portland, *Eggert, J.*) terminating his parental rights to the child pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(A)(1)(a) and (B)(2) (2015). Contrary to his contentions, the court did not clearly err or abuse its discretion when it determined that it was in the child's best interest that the father's parental rights be terminated so that the child could be freed for adoption. See 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2)(a); *cf. In re David W.*, 2010 ME 119, ¶ 10, 8 A.3d 673. Further, the court found at least one ground of parental unfitness that is supported by clear and convincing evidence in the record. See 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2)(b)(i), (ii); *In re Hannah S.*, 2016 ME 32, ¶¶ 8-10, --- A.3d ---.

Finally, contrary to the father's contentions, the judgment and record reveal no error in the court's decision to adopt the proposed written findings of the Department's counsel, after the court announced its judgment on the record, made findings, requested a draft order, and expressly indicated in the order that it had reviewed the entire record and found the additional findings proposed by the Department to be true. See *In re Allison H.*, 1999 ME 176, ¶¶ 7-8, 11, 740 A.2d 997; *cf. Efstathiou v. Aspinquid, Inc.*, 2008 ME 145, ¶ 64, 956 A.2d 110.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

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**On the briefs:**

Michael G. Keefe, Esq., Portland, for appellant Father

Janet T. Mills, Attorney General, and Meghan Szylvian, Asst.  
Atty. Gen., Office of the Attorney General, Augusta, for  
appellee Department of Health and Human Services

Portland District Court docket number PC-2013-107  
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