MAINE SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT

Reporter of Decisions Decision No. Mem 21-91 Docket No. Aro-21-127

IN RE CHILD OF ELIZABETH O.

Submitted on Briefs September 22, 2021 Decided September 30, 2021

Panel: STANFILL, C.J., and MEAD, GORMAN, JABAR, HUMPHREY, and CONNORS, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The mother appeals from a judgment entered by the District Court (Caribou, *Soucy*, *J*.) terminating her parental rights as to the child. The court did not abuse its discretion in its ultimate conclusion that the termination of the mother's rights was in the child's best interest. *In re C.P.*, 2013 ME 57, ¶ 19, 67 A.3d 558.¹

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

¹ Although the mother did not challenge the court's finding of parental unfitness, we note that the record contains sufficient evidence to support the court's findings that the mother is unwilling or unable to protect the child from jeopardy and these circumstances are unlikely to change in a time reasonably calculated to meet the child's needs and is unwilling or unable to take responsibility for the child within a time that is reasonably calculated to meet the child's needs. *See* 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2)(a), (b)(i), (ii) (2021); *In re Hope H.*, 2017 ME 198, ¶ 10, 170 A.3d 813.

Allan Hanson, Esq., Caribou, for appellant Mother

Aaron M. Frey, Attorney General, and Hunter C. Umphrey, Asst. Atty. Gen., Office of the Attorney General, Augusta, for appellee Department of Health and Human Services

Caribou District Court docket number PC-2017-08 For Clerk Reference Only