

IN RE CHILD OF ROBERT J.

Submitted on Briefs October 18, 2023  
Decided October 26, 2023

Panel: STANFILL, C.J., and MEAD, JABAR, HORTON, CONNORS, LAWRENCE,  
and DOUGLAS, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Robert J. and the mother of his child separately appeal from a judgment of the District Court (Wiscasset, *Gilbert, J.*) terminating their parental rights to their child. *See* 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(A)(1)(a), (B)(2)(a), (b) (2023). The mother argues narrowly that “[t]he TPR Order did not identify which specific aspect of parental unfitness . . . it was basing its conclusion on.” After having made extensive factual findings, which are well supported in the record, the court expressly found that both mother and father had failed to alleviate jeopardy. The court then stated that it had “considered the totality of the case in finding by clear and convincing evidence that both parents are unfit to meet the child’s needs within the applicable timeframe.” While not citing to the specific statutory subsection, the reference is clearly to the unfitness prong as set out under 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2)(b)(i). We decline the mother’s invitation to remand the matter for further findings. *See In re Aubrey R.*, 2017 ME 37, ¶ 2, 157 A.3d 212.

Contrary to the father’s contentions, the court did not err in finding, by clear and convincing evidence, grounds for his parental unfitness. *See* 22 M.R.S. §§ 4055 (1)(A)(1)(a), (b)(i)-(ii); *see, e.g., In re Children of Jason C.*, 2020 ME 86, ¶ 7, 236 A.3d 438. Furthermore, the trial court did not abuse its discretion in finding termination of the father’s parental rights was in the child’s best

interest. *See* 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2)(a); *see, e.g., In re Child of Louise G.*, 2020 ME 87, ¶ 8, 236 A.3d 445.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

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appellant father

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Wiscasset District Court docket number PC-2020-15  
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