

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
109TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

(Filing No. H-165)

HOUSE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 479, L.D. 594, Bill, "AN ACT to Provide that the Position on the Primary Election Ballot and on the General Election Ballot of the Names of Candidates for Major Offices shall be Determined by Lot."

Amend the Bill by striking out the title and inserting in its place the following: 'AN ACT to Provide that the Position on Ballots of the Names of Candidates and Nominees shall be Determined by Lot.'

Further amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 21 MRSA §701, sub-§2, ¶B, as amended by PL 1973, c. 414, §30, is further amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: However, the order of names, with their accompanying municipalities of residence, of the candidates for nomination shall be determined by lot, the drawing of these lots to be conducted by the Secretary of State or his designee. The manner of drawing by lot shall be determined by the Secretary of State in such a manner as to ensure a random selection in sequence of the 26 letters of the alphabet. The sequence so determined shall be the sequence for alphabetizing on all ballots the order of names of candidates for a particular office. Therefore, the order of such names shall be: All of the names of candidates for a particular office whose last names begin with the first letter chosen shall appear on the ballot ahead of the names of any candidate for that same office whose last name begins with the 2nd letter chosen, and so forth throughout the

newly-ordered alphabet. The drawing of lots shall be publicly conducted by the Secretary of State or his designee on the 3rd Wednesday of November for any election during the following calendar year.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA §702, sub-§1, first ¶, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 414, §32, is amended to read:

The ballot must contain the name, without any title, and municipality of residence of each nominee, arranged under the proper office designation alphabetically according to the newly-ordered alphabet established as provided for by section 701, subsection 2, paragraph B, with the ^{last name} ~~surname~~/first.

Statement of Fact

This amendment clarifies the procedure to be followed by the Secretary of State or his designee in ordering names on a ballot by lot.

Filed by Mrs. Nelson of Portland.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
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