

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

OF R

STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
108TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" 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 sentences:

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 name 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 in the presence of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices on a date before the election that allows the Secretary of State sufficient time for ballot preparation as required by Title 21.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA §702, sub-§1, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c.414, §32, is amended by adding after the first sentence the following new sentences:

However, the order of names, with their accompanying municipalities of residence, of the nominees 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 name 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 in the presence of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices on a date before the election that allows the Secretary of State sufficient time for ballot preparation as required by Title 21.'

Statement of Fact

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

(Sen. Pray)

Sponsor:



County: Penobscot

Reproduced and distributed pursuant to Senate Rule 11-A.

April 13, 1977

(Filing No. S-71)