

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 6

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Office of the Senate

Office of the Secretary of the Senate. Filed December 8, 1978 under Joint Rule 21 by Senator-Elect Andrew J. Redmond of Somerset. To be printed and delivered to the 109th Maine Legislature.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator-Elect Redmond of Somerset.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Require Candidates for Nomination by Primary Petition to File
Petitions by April 1st of Election Year.**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 21 MRSA § 493, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 425, § 2, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 493. Declaration of candidacy

A person who seeks nomination by petition shall file a signed declaration of candidacy with the Secretary of State by or before 5 p.m. on February 1st of the election year in which that person will be a candidate. The person filing a declaration of candidacy shall include within the declaration the title of the office that person intends to seek. Failure to file such declaration prior to 5 p.m. on February 1st shall result in that person's ineligibility to be a candidate for election to that office in that calendar year. That person shall also file a nomination petition, as provided in section 494.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA § 494, sub-§ 8, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 425, § 2, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

8. Submission to registrar. The petition shall be submitted to the registrar of each municipality concerned for certification according to subsection 7,

paragraph B, by or before 5 p.m. on March 27th of the election year in which it is to be used.

Sec. 3. 21 MRSA § 494, sub-§ 9, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 425, § 2, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

9. Filed with Secretary of State. The petition shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State by or before 5 p.m. on April 1st of the election year in which it is to be used.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires candidates seeking nomination by petition to file their declarations of candidacy by February 1st of the election year, to file their petitions with municipal registrars for certification by March 27th of election year, and to file their petitions with the Secretary of State by April 1st of election year. This bill thus subjects independent candidates to deadlines similar to those for party candidates.