MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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3   ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5   Legislative Document   No. 35
6

7   H.P. 30   House of Representatives, January 5, 1983
8
        Reference to the Committee on Election Laws suggested and ordered
9   printed.

                                            EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
10

    Presented by Representative Carter of Winslow.
11

12   STATE OF MAINE
13

14   IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15   NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17   AN ACT to Provide that an Absentee Ballot
18   for a Municipal Election May be Requested on
19   the Application Requesting an Absentee Ballot
20   for a State Election.
21

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

24   Sec. 1.   21 MRSA §1252, sub-§2, as amended by PL
25 1981, c. 436, §3, is further amended to read:

26   2. Content of application. The application   must
27 contain a place for the following: Name of applicant,
28 address, address to which ballot is to be sent, title
29 and year of election at which ballot is to be cast,
30 name of party in which he is or desires to be
31 enrolled, date of application and signature of appli-
32 cant.   It must contain a place for the applicant to
33 designate the reason for requesting an absentee bal-
34 lot, the name of a person to whom his ballot may be

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 1    delivered and a place for the  registrar  to  certify
 2    whether  the applicant is registered and the party in
 3    which he is or desires to be enrolled.  It shall con-
 4    tain a place for the applicant to request an absentee
 5    ballot for the municipal  election,  if  a  municipal
 6    election is to be held on the same date as the state-
 7    wide election.  It shall contain a conspicuously-
 8    printed  summary  warning  of the provisions of Title
 9    17-A, section 703.


10        Sec. 2.   21 MRSA §1253, sub-§2, as amended by  PL
11    1977, c. 696, §177, is further amended to read:

12        2.  Application  or  request received. On receipt
13    of a completed application or a request for an absen-
14    tee ballot signed by the applicant, the  clerk  shall
15    send  or  deliver an absentee ballot and return enve-
16    lope forthwith to the applicant or to  a  3rd  person
17    designated  in  the  application  or  request.  If a
18    municipal election is to be held on the same date  as
19    a statewide election, absentee ballots for the munic-
20    ipal  and  statewide election may be requested on the
21    same application.  The clerk shall issue to  any  3rd
22    person  so designated only enough absentee ballots to
23    insure that such a person shall not be in  possession
24    at  any  time  of  more  than 40 absentee ballots for
25    voters in a municipality. Such a  3rd  person  shall,
26    unless good cause is shown, return an absentee ballot
27    to the clerk's office within the time limits provided
28    in  section  1255.   The clerk shall include a ballot
29    application to be completed by the person who  signed
30    only a written request, unless the written request is
31    sufficient  as provided in subsection 1-A.  The clerk
32    shall type or write in ink the name and the legal ad-
33    dress of the person for whom the absentee  ballot  is
34    intended in the upper left hand section of all return
35    envelopes.

36    If  the clerk receives a duplicate application from a
37    person from whom the  clerk  has  received  a  return
38    envelope  apparently  containing  an absentee ballot,
39    the clerk shall not furnish another  absentee  ballot
40    for such person.

41    The  clerk  may  issue  a  2nd  absentee ballot to an
42    applicant if the applicant in person  or  in  writing
43    requests one and:
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1   A.   If such applicant states good cause, includ-
2   ing, but not limited to, loss of, spoiling of or
3   damage to the first absentee ballot; or

4   B.   If an absentee ballot for such applicant
5   which was furnished to a designated 3rd person is
6   not returned to the clerk's office within 5 busi-
7   ness days of the date such ballot was sent or
8   delivered to such 3rd person or by 10 a.m. on the
9   day before election day, whichever is earlier.
10   This paragraph shall not be construed to affect
11   the time for delivery of absentee ballots under
12   section 1255.

13   STATEMENT OF FACT

14   The purpose of this bill is to permit a voter to
15   request an absentee ballot for a municipal election
16   on the same application used to request an absentee
17   ballot for a statewide election.

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