

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document No. 158

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H.P. 133 House of Representatives, January 23, 1985  
Reference to the Committee on Local and County Government suggested  
and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Crowley of Stockton Springs.  
Cosponsored by Senator Shute of Waldo and Senator Chalmers of Knox.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE

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AN ACT Relating to the Number of Voting  
Booths Required in Maine Elections.

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Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Legislature imposed a requirement for voting booths in Maine elections; and

Whereas, this requirement will result in great hardship and expense to a number of towns; and

Whereas, this bill is vitally needed to ease that burden and make the law more workable; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-

1 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
2 therefore,

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

5 21 MRSA §603, sub-§1, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1983,  
6 c. 391, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in  
7 its place:

8 A. In a general election, the municipal officers  
9 in each municipality of 4,000 or more population  
10 shall provide at least one voting booth for each  
11 150, or fraction exceeding 1/2 thereof, of the  
12 voters qualified to vote in each voting place.  
13 In a municipality of less than 4,000 population,  
14 the municipal officers shall provide at least one  
15 voting booth for each 200, or fraction exceeding  
16 1/2 thereof, of the voters qualified to vote in  
17 each voting place.

18 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency  
19 cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect  
20 when approved.

21 STATEMENT OF FACT

22 The intent of this bill is to revert back to the  
23 prior law in order to save unnecessary hardship and  
24 expense to the towns. Under this bill, a minimum  
25 number of booths is stipulated, but towns are given  
26 the option to add more if needed.

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