

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

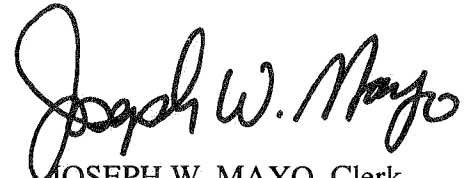
No. 1047

H.P. 770

House of Representatives, February 13, 1997

**An Act to Prohibit Persons Registering to Vote from Voting unless they
Provide Adequate Identification.**

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative MERES of Norridgewock.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BODWELL of Brunswick, KASPRZAK of Newport, LANE
of Enfield, UNDERWOOD of Oxford.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §121, sub-§1-A,** as repealed and replaced by
5 PL 1993, c. 695, §5, is amended to read:

6 **1-A. Identification and proof.** Registration applications
7 taken by outside agencies must be transferred to the Secretary of
8 State within 5 days of receipt. An applicant who attempts to
9 register within 20 days of an election must be advised that the
10 registrar might not receive the application before that election,
11 but that the applicant may register in person on election day.

12
13 Registration applications received by the Secretary of State from
14 outside agencies 21 days or more before an election must be
15 transferred to the appropriate registrar's office within 10 days
16 of receipt. Registration applications received by the Secretary
17 of State from outside agencies 20 days or less before an election
18 must be transferred to the appropriate registrar's office within
19 5 days of receipt. Registration applications by mail must be
20 received in the registrar's office by the close of business 15
21 days before election day in order for persons to appear on the
22 list of registered voters for that election.

23 A person who registers during the 15 days before election day or
24 on election day shall register in person and show proof of
25 identity and residency. ~~If The person may not vote until~~
26 ~~satisfactory proof of identity and--residency--can--not--be is~~
27 ~~provided to the registrar or deputy,--the--person--casts--a~~
28 ~~challenged-ballot. For purposes of this subsection:~~

29
30 A. Proof of identity includes, but is not limited to, a
31 Maine driver's license, state identification card, school
32 identification card or social security card; and

33
34 B. Proof of residency includes, but is not limited to, any
35 one of the items listed in paragraph A that has on it the
36 person's current address or any of the items in paragraph A
37 along with an envelope showing the name and address of the
38 person as the recipient.

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42 **SUMMARY**

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45 Current law requires a person who registers to vote within
46 15 days of election day to provide satisfactory proof of identity
47 and residency; a person who fails to do so casts a challenged
48 ballot.

49
50 This bill requires a person who registers within 15 days of
election day, including those registering on election day, to

2 provide proof of identity, such as a Maine driver's license,
state identification card, school identification card or social
4 security card and proof of residency, such as an envelope
addressed to the person. The person may not vote until the
person provides satisfactory proof of identity.