

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 980

S.P. 321

In Senate, February 25, 2003

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Qualification of Candidates

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator NASS of York.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §374-B** is enacted to read:

6 **§374-B. Enrolling in another party prohibited**

8 A candidate for Governor or any other statewide office who
10 is running for that office as a member of one political party may
12 not be a candidate for that office in the same election cycle
14 after changing enrollment to another political party.

16 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§5, ¶D,** as enacted by IB 1995, c.
18 1, §17, is amended to read:

20 D. Not accepted contributions, except for seed money
22 contributions, and otherwise complied with seed money
24 restrictions; and

26 **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§5, ¶D-1** is enacted to read:

28 D-1. Not run for election as a nonparticipating candidate
30 any time during the election cycle for which that
32 certification is sought; and

34 **SUMMARY**

36 This bill amends current law by prohibiting a candidate from
38 switching political parties while a candidate for office during
40 an election cycle. It also amends the Maine Clean Election Act
42 by establishing that a candidate is not eligible for
44 certification as a participating candidate if that candidate has
46 run as a nonparticipating candidate during the same election
48 cycle.