

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MS

REPORT "C"

L.D. 1020

Date: 4-29-09

(Filing No. S-110)

JUDICIARY

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

124TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 384, L.D. 1020, Bill, "An Act To End Discrimination in Civil Marriage and Affirm Religious Freedom"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Ask Voters in a Referendum whether To Permit Marriage between Individuals of the Same Sex'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 6 the following:

'Sec. 7. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at election; form of question; effective date. This Act must be submitted to the legal voters of the State at a statewide election held in the month of November following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

"Do you favor amending Maine law to permit marriage between individuals of the same sex?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Act, the Governor shall proclaim the result without delay and this Act becomes effective 30 days after the date of the proclamation.

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. This amendment makes the Act contingent on approval by the voters in a referendum at the general election in November. The title of the bill is changed to reflect the referendum addition.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1020

LR 1069(03)

An Act To End Discrimination in Civil Marriage and Affirm Religious Freedom

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "B"

Committee: Judiciary

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Referendum Costs	Month/Year	Election Type	Question	Length
	Nov-09	General	Referendum	Standard

The Secretary of State's budget includes sufficient funds to accommodate one ballot of average length for the general election in November. If the number or size of the referendum questions requires production and delivery of a second ballot, an additional appropriation of \$107,250 may be required.