

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 266

Date: 5/16/25 MINORITY

(Filing No. H-187)

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 132ND LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 169, L.D. 266, "An Act to Require the Updating of Voter Registration Signatures"

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

'An Act to Notify Registered Voters When the Voters' Signatures on a Petition Contain Material Irregularities'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §3, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Material irregularities in signatures on petitions; notification. If the signature of a registered voter on a petition under section 335, 354 or 902 does not match the signature for that registered voter in the central voter registration system and results in that registered voter's signature being invalidated, the registrar shall notify the registered voter and provide the registered voter with information on how to update the registered voter's signature in the central voter registration system.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. The amendment requires a registrar to notify a registered voter when a signature made by the registered voter on a primary petition, nomination petition or petition to initiate proceedings for a people's veto referendum or the direct initiative of legislation does not match the signature of the registered voter in the central voter registration system. The registrar must provide the registered voter with information on how to update the registered voter's signature in the central voter registration system.

The preliminary fiscal impact statement identified a potential unfunded state mandate in the requirements that registrars notify voters whose signatures on a petition do not match

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1 the signatures in the central voter registration system and to provide the voters with
2 information on updating their signature in the central voter registration system.

3 The committee members who voted in favor of this report reviewed the preliminary
4 fiscal impact statement and determined that because the impact on municipalities is
5 anticipated to be insignificant statewide and that the frequency of such an event occurring
6 is likely to be low the requirement likely will not have significant costs and does not require
7 an expansion or modification of activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures.

8 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**
9 (See attached)



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LD 266

LR 456(02)

An Act to Require the Updating of Voter Registration Signatures

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A' (H-187)
Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Potential State Mandate Removed - Committee Exception

Fiscal Detail and Notes

In the Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement (PFIS) for this bill, it was identified as a Potential State Mandate - Unfunded. The committee reviewed the PFIS and determined that because the likelihood of the signatures not matching between the petition and the central voter registration system would be so infrequent and the requirement likely will not have significant costs and doesn't require an expansion or modification of activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures, that this bill was not a mandate. As the committee included this exception in the summary of the committee amendment, the Potential State Mandate - Unfunded language was removed from the fiscal note for the committee amendment.