MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1	L.D. 349
2	Date: 5/16/25 MINORITY (Filing No. H-185)
3	VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS
4	Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
5	STATE OF MAINE
6	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7	132ND LEGISLATURE
8	FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
9 10	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 249, L.D. 349, "An Act to Repeal the Laws That Allow Same-day Voter Registration"
11	Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:
12	'An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Same-day Voter Registration'
13 14	Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:
15 16	'Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §121-A, first ¶, as amended by PL 2023, c. 291, §2 and affected by §4, is further amended to read:
17 18 19 20 21 22 23	The deadline for receipt of voter registration applications submitted by mail or by a 3rd person is the close of business on the 21st day before election day. The deadline for receipt of voter registration applications submitted online is midnight on the 21st day before election day. The deadline for receipt of voter registration applications transmitted by the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles pursuant to section 232 or by a source agency other than the Bureau of Motor Vehicles pursuant to section 233 is midnight on the 7th day before election day. The deadline for in-person registration is the elose of the polls 2 p.m. on election day.
25 26	Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §122, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2005, c. 453, §16, is further amended to read:
27 28 29 30 31 32 33	4. Election day registration. The registrar shall accept registrations of applicants who appear in person by 2 p.m. on election day. The registrar shall continue to accept registrations after 2 p.m. from applicants who were present at the polling place by the deadline. The registrar shall issue to each of these applicants a certificate entitling the applicant to be placed on the incoming voting list at the voting place. Only one certificate may be issued to a person. An applicant whose address has changed since the applicant last voted must vote using the ballot or ballots for the new polling place, if applicable, on election day.

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- Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §122, sub-§5, as amended by PL 2013, c. 131, §7, is further amended to read:
- 5. Alternative registration schedule for absentee voters. If the clerk receives a properly completed absentee ballot application that is signed by a person who is not a registered voter in the municipality, a presumption of the person's qualification as a voter is established. The clerk shall send an absentee ballot to the voter at the address indicated, along with a voter registration application under section 152. The completed registration application must be returned to the clerk by the elose of the polls on election day deadline for in-person registration established in section 121-A in order for the ballot to be counted and may not be sealed with the voted absentee ballot. If the application is received during the closed period and the registrar is not satisfied as to the person's qualification as a voter, the registrar shall follow the requirements of section 121, subsection 1-A to place the person's name on the incoming voting list and challenge the absentee ballot. An application by telephone under section 753-A, subsection 4 or an application by electronic means under section 753-A, subsection 6 does not establish a presumption of qualification under this section and the requestor must submit a properly completed voter registration application before the clerk may issue an absentee ballot.

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

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill. It changes the title and changes the deadline for inperson voter registration to 2 p.m. on election day. The registrar must accept a registration from an applicant present at the polling place by the deadline. The deadline by which an absentee voter's registration application must be returned to the clerk is also 2 p.m. on election day.