

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1131

H.P. 750

House of Representatives, March 18, 2025

**An Act to Reform the Process by Which a Person May Petition an
Agency to Adopt or Modify Rules Under the Maine Administrative
Procedure Act**

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative SOBOLESKI of Phillips.
Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Oxford and
Representative: SMITH of Palermo.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §8055, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 1985, c. 506, Pt. A, §4, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **3. Receipt of petition.** Within 60 days after receipt of a petition, the agency shall
5 either notify the petitioner in writing of its denial, stating the reasons therefor, or initiate
6 appropriate rule-making proceedings. Whenever a petition to adopt or modify a rule is
7 submitted by ~~150 or more~~ a number of registered voters of the State that is equal to or
8 greater than 1% of the total number of votes cast for Governor at the last gubernatorial
9 election preceding the filing of the petition, the agency shall initiate appropriate ~~rulemaking~~
10 rule-making proceedings within 60 days after receipt of the petition. The petition must be
11 verified and certified in the same manner provided in Title 21-A, section 354, subsection
12 7, prior to its presentation to the agency. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are
13 major substantive rules and subject to legislative review in accordance with subchapter
14 2-A.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill changes the number of voter signatures required on a petition to require an
17 agency to adopt or modify an agency rule from 150 to 1% of the total number of votes cast
18 for Governor at the last gubernatorial election preceding the filing of the petition. The bill
19 also specifies that the rules are major substantive rules.