

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

August 2025

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

LD 1702 An Act to Amend Election Polling Place Candidate Restrictions

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 331 adds new restrictions regarding signatures and campaign contributions and clarifies existing restrictions in current law applying to the political activities of a candidate for public office at a voting place on election day.

The law prohibits a candidate or the candidate's representative, on public property within 250 feet of the entrance to the voting place as well as within the voting place itself, from collecting or soliciting voter signatures on a petition in support of the candidate's candidacy, campaign contributions in support of the candidate's candidacy or qualifying contributions under the Maine Clean Election Act for an office the candidate is seeking in that election year.

The law also clarifies that at or within 250 feet of a voting place a person may not influence or attempt to influence a voter's decision regarding a candidate for an office that is on the ballot for the election, whether or not the candidate's name is on the ballot and clarifies that the provision also applies to write-in candidates running for an office that is on the ballot.

Public Law 2025, chapter 331 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 17, 2025.

LD 1787 An Act to Increase Seed Money Contribution Limits for Gubernatorial Candidates Under the Maine Clean Election Act

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 296 increases the contribution limits for gubernatorial seed money contributions to \$250 per individual.

LD 1977 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Elections

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 397 makes the following changes to the election laws.

1. It replaces uses of the term "polling place" in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A with the defined term "voting place."
2. It amends the definition of "closed period" to make it consistent with the statutory provision allowing a voter to register to vote in an election through automatic voter registration within a portion of the closed period.
3. It changes the deadline for submitting an online voter registration application from midnight on the 21st day before election day to 5 p.m. on the 21st day before election day.

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES