

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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September 4, 1936

Robinson Verrill, Chairman
Cumberland County
Republican Committee
488 Congress Street
Portland, Maine

Dear Mr. Verrill:

Concerning your understanding of the law, as contained in the first paragraph of your letter of September 1st, I am of the opinion that your statement is correct and that there is a gap of three months after losing a voting residence before a new one can be acquired. This situation apparently arose through inadvertence but I do not feel that a construction of the law would allow us to legislate into the law something that in our opinion should have been attended to by the legislature.

Your last question, as I understand it, is whether there is any difference from a change of residence from one town to another, and a change of residence from a town in another state to a town in this state. I do not so understand. Section 1 of the Constitution, as amended, provides, - "Every male citizen of the United States of the age of twenty-one years and upwards except paupers, persons under guardianship and Indians not taxed having a residence established in this state for the term of six months next preceding any election shall be an elector for governor, senators and representatives in the town or plantation where his residence is so established ****." It seems to me that the word "so" governs the construction and such citizen shall be an elector in the town or plantation where his residence is established for six months preceding any election.

If you differ with my understanding of it, I should welcome your views.

Most cordially yours,

Attorney General

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