

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1328

H. P. 968

House of Representatives, March 4, 1971

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Cote of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Home Rule Procedure.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 30, § 1913, sub-§ 5, amended. The 2nd paragraph and the first sentence of the 3rd paragraph of subsection 5 of section 1913 of Title 30 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by chapter 563 of the public laws of 1969, are amended to read as follows:

Within ~~8~~ 9 months after its election, the charter commission shall prepare a preliminary report including the text of the charter or charter revision which the commission intends shall be submitted to the voters and any explanatory information the commission deems desirable, shall cause such report to be printed and circulated throughout the municipality, and shall provide sufficient copies of the preliminary report to the municipal clerk to permit its distribution to each voter requesting same.

Within ~~10~~ 12 months after its election, the charter commission shall submit to the municipal officers its final report, which shall include the full text and an explanation of the proposed new charter or charter revision, such comments as the commission deems desirable, an indication of the major differences between the current and proposed charters and a written opinion by an attorney admitted to the bar of this State that the proposed charter or charter revision is not in conflict with the Constitution or the general laws.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 30, § 1915, sub-§ 4, amended. The first sentence of subsection 4 of section 1915 of Title 30 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by chapter 563 of the public laws of 1969, is amended to read as follows:

If a majority of the ballots cast on any question under subsection 1 favor acceptance, the new charter, charter revision or charter amendment becomes effective as provided below ~~provided the total number of votes cast for and against the question equals or exceeds 30% of the total votes cast in the municipality at the next previous gubernatorial election.~~

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to extend the time in which the charter commission shall prepare its charter for submission to the voters. Another purpose of this bill is to eliminate the 30% requirement for adoption or amendment of a municipal charter.