

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 341

H. P. 261

House of Representatives, January 23, 1973

Referred to the Committee on Election Laws. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Shute of Stockton Springs.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

**AN ACT Determining Position of Names of Candidates on Primary Ballots
and General Election Ballots.**

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 21, § 701, sub-§ 2, ¶ B, amended. Paragraph B of subsection 2 of section 701 of Title 21 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 12 of chapter 225 of the public laws of 1967, is further amended to read as follows:

B. Name and residence of candidate. The ballot must contain the name, without any title, and place of residence of each candidate arranged under the proper office designation ~~alphabetically by surname~~. **When there is more than one candidate under an office designation, the sequence of the names shall be determined by the Secretary of State or his deputy within 30 days after the filing date by a public drawing of lots.** The name of each candidate may be printed on the ballot in only one space.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 21, § 702, sub-§ 1, amended. The first sentence of subsection 1 of section 702 of Title 21 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by the Initiated Bill, is amended to read as follows:

The ballot must contain the name and place of residence of each nominee, arranged under the proper office designation ~~alphabetically by surname~~. **When there is more than one candidate under an office designation, the sequence of the names shall be determined by the Secretary of State or his deputy within 30 days after the filing date by a public drawing of lots.**

STATEMENT OF FACT

The alphabetical listing of candidates on the ballot is discriminatory against any person whose name is in the last end of the alphabet as the first named person according to statistics receives an additional 5 to 7% of the vote.