

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1330

H. P. 1012

House of Representatives, March 6, 1973

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Emery of Rockland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Voting Machines or Electronic Voting
Systems in Certain Municipalities.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 21, § 1031, repealed and replaced. Section 1031 of Title 21 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 1031. Obtaining and using

A municipality with a population of 3,000 or more shall, and a municipality with a population under 3,000 may, obtain and use voting machines according to the following provisions:

1. Purchased. The municipality shall purchase voting machines, with or without state subsidy.
2. Use authorized. The voting machines shall be used at each type of election.
3. One machine. One machine for each 400 registered voters.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 21, § 1062, repealed and replaced. Section 1062 of Title 21 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by chapter 464 of the public laws of 1967, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 1062. Obtaining and using

A municipality with a population of 3,000 or more shall, and a municipality with a population under 3,000 may, obtain and use electronic voting systems according to the following provisions:

1. **Purchased.** The municipality shall purchase voting devices, with or without state subsidy.
2. **Use authorized.** The voting devices shall be used at each type of election.
3. **Voting device.** One device for each 400 registered voters.

Sec. 3. Reimbursement. Any municipality purchasing voting machines or electronic voting devices shall be reimbursed by the State for $\frac{1}{2}$ the cost of such machines or devices, such reimbursement to be made on certification of the Secretary of State to the Treasurer of State and from the funds appropriated by this Act.

Sec. 4. Appropriation. There is appropriated to the Secretary of State from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund the sum of \$600,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act. Any unexpended balances shall not lapse but shall remain a continuing carrying account until the purposes of this Act shall have been accomplished.

FISCAL NOTE

An exact total of the State's cost is not available but can be estimated at about \$940,000 if all voting machines are purchased, or about \$550,000 if $\frac{1}{2}$ are voting machines and the remainder electronic voting systems.

STATEMENT OF FACT

It shall be the policy of the State of Maine that each municipality of 3,000 and over of registered voters shall provide either voting machines or electronic voting systems, or both, effective with the June, 1974, primary elections.

To ease the financial burden on those communities involved, on request of the municipal officials involved, the State may provide a subsidy equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ the cost of the voting machines or electronic voting systems selected by the municipality, according to provisions of chapters 25 and 26, Title 21 of the Revised Statutes.

Municipalities shall provide one type of authorized voting machine for each 400 registered voters.

As few as 56 and as many as 73 communities would be directly involved if this legislation is approved by the 106th Legislature.