

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1391

H. P. 1066

House of Representatives, March 7, 1973

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Smith of Dover-Foxcroft.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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**AN ACT** Relating to Political Campaign Reports and Finances.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 21, § 1397, sub-§ 2, amended.** Subsection 2 of section 1397 of Title 21 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 1 of chapter 75 of the public laws of 1969, is further amended to read as follows :

**2. When filed.** A report must be filed with the Secretary of State within ~~30~~ 60 days after any election showing the totals of the entire campaign.

**Sec. 2. R. S., T. 21, § 1576, repealed and replaced.** Section 1576 of Title 21 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof :

**§ 1576. Form and content of documents**

The Secretary of State may establish the layout and content of all forms, lists, documents and records required by or necessary to the efficient operation of this Title.

**1. Exception.** The state committees of the major political parties and candidates for federal office shall file one copy of the completed report required of them by federal law with the Secretary of State on the same day as required by federal law, except for the final campaign report, which shall be filed not later than 60 days after the election. Candidates for Governor shall file a report of the same form and content on the same dates as required of federal candidates by federal law, except for the final campaign report, which shall be filed not later than 60 days after the election.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is two-fold. First, it would extend the final reporting date for candidates campaign reports to allow them to include all campaign expenses and contributions. Due to the billing procedures of many businesses, it is currently impossible to include some transactions in final campaign reports.

Second, this bill would require gubernatorial candidates to submit the financing and operation of their campaigns to public scrutiny just as federal candidates are required to do. Maine currently does not require candidates for Governor to make their contributions and expenditures public until after the general election.