

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1774

H. P. 1338

House of Representatives, April 3, 1973

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Connolly of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Certification of Nomination Papers for State and
County Elections.

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

R. S., T. 21, § 492, sub-§ 9, repealed and replaced. Subsection 9 of section 492 of Title 21 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof.

9. Checked by Secretary of State. The Secretary of State shall certify forthwith on the petition which signatures on it are those of voters of the municipality as stated on the petition.

STATEMENT OF FACT

State law now requires that signatures on nomination papers of candidates for any state or county office seeking nomination by petition be first certified by the registrar of each municipality concerned before filing with the Secretary of State. In cases where candidates seek nomination by primary, no such local certification is required. This bill would eliminate local certification for candidates in state and county elections when seeking nomination by petition. Its purpose is two-fold :

- 1) to provide for a uniform and more efficient method of certification ; and
- 2) to provide for equal treatment under law for all candidates.

Enactment of this bill would continue to allow for certification of nomination papers when they are filed with the Secretary of State.