

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 324

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H. P. 257

House of Representatives, January 22, 1975

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Nadeau of Sanford.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE

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AN ACT to Prohibit Voter Registration with Certain Exceptions  
on Election Day.

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

Sec. 1. 21 MRSA, § 631, sub-§ 1, last sentence, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 782, § 8, is further amended to read:

He shall not accept registrations in person on election day, ~~but not on the business day next prior to it~~ except for the registration of any person who has attained his 18th birthday either during the period after the last day on which registrations are normally taken until election day or on election day.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA, § 631, sub-§ 2, last sentence, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 414, § 26, is further amended to read:

He shall not accept registrations in person on election day ~~but not on the 3 business days next prior to it~~, except for the registration of any person who has attained his 18th birthday either during the period after the last day on which registrations are normally taken until election day or on election day.

Sec. 3. 21 MRSA, § 631, sub-§ 3, last sentence, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 414, § 26, is further amended to read:

He shall not accept registrations in person on election day ~~but not on the 5 business days next prior to it~~, except for the registration of any person who has attained his 18th birthday either during the period after the last day on which registrations are normally taken until election day or on election day.

Sec. 4. 21 MRSA, § 631, sub-§ 4, last sentence, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 414, § 26, is further amended to read:

He shall not accept registrations in person on election day ~~but not on the 7 business days next prior to it~~, except for the registration of any person who has attained his 18th birthday either during the period after the last day on which registrations are normally taken until election day or on election day.

Sec. 5. 21 MRSA, § 631, sub-§ 5, last sentence, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 414, § 26, is further amended to read:

He shall not accept registrations in person on election day ~~but not on the 9 business days next prior to it~~, except for the registration of any person who has attained his 18th birthday either during the period after the last day on which registrations are normally taken until election day or on election day.

Sec. 6. 21 MRSA, § 632, sub-§ 1 is amended to read:

1. Municipality of 2,500 or less. In a municipality of 2,500 or less population, he shall not accept registrations on election day, ~~but not on the business day next prior to it~~ except for the registration of any person who has attained his 18th birthday either during the period after the last day on which registrations are normally taken until election day or on election day.

Sec. 7. 21 MRSA, § 632, sub-§ 2, last sentence, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 414, § 28, is further amended to read:

He shall not accept registrations on election day ~~but not on the business day next prior to it~~, except for the registration of any person who has attained his 18th birthday either during the period after the last day on which registrations are normally taken until election day or on election day.

Sec. 8. 21 MRSA, § 672, 3rd ¶ from end, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 782, § 9, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

The registrar of voters or board of registration will hold office hours while the polls are open to correct any error in or change a name or address on the voting list; to accept the registration of any person who becomes 18 years of age on election day or has become 18 years of age after the close of registrations prior to election day, and to accept new enrollments.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill provides that voter registration will close on the dates now in effect and will remain closed on election day, except for persons who become 18 years of age either between the closing of registration and election day or on election day. This bill will help to ensure that there will not be mass confusion at the various boards of registration on election day simply because many people desire to register on that day when they could have registered previous to that day.