

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 433

H. P. 349

House of Representatives, January 29, 1975

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Require Grouping of Candidates by Party on General Election Ballots.

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

Sec. 1. 21 MRSA, § 702, sub-§ 1, first sentence, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 414, § 32, is further repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

The ballot shall contain the names of nominees for office grouped by party, the party groups to be set forth in alphabetical order. At the head of each party group, the name of the party shall be set forth in bold-faced type and capital letters. Within each party group the nominees of that party shall be listed in the order of offices set forth in subsection 4. The name of each nominee shall be set forth without any title and shall be accompanied by the municipality of residence of that nominee.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA, § 702, sub-§ 2, ¶ A, 4th sentence, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 414, § 33, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 21 MRSA, § 702, sub-§ 2, ¶ A, 5th sentence, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 414, § 33, is amended to read:

The initial letter of the surname of the several candidates in each column shall be printed directly beneath each other in a vertical line ~~and the initial letter of the respective party designations of each nominee shall be printed directly beneath each other in a vertical line.~~

Sec. 4. 21 MRSA, § 702, sub-§ 2, ¶ B, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 160, § 4, is repealed.

Sec. 5. 21 MRSA, § 702, sub-§ 2, ¶ F, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 414, § 34, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

F. Space for write-ins. After every party group has been listed on the ballot, there shall be another grouping at the head of which shall be printed in bold-faced type and capital letters the words "WRITE-IN CANDIDATES." This grouping shall contain a list of the offices to which candidates will be elected in that general election, set out according to subsection 4, each office to be followed by a blank suitable for the insertion of the name of a write-in candidate. A voter desiring to insert the name of a write-in candidate shall write in the appropriate blank the name of the write-in candidate, with the surname first or last, without any title, and the residence of the write-in candidate before his ballot shall be counted.

Sec. 6. 21 MRSA, § 702, sub-§ 4, as last amended by PL 1965, c. 425, § 13-B, is further amended to read:

4. Order of offices. The order of offices within each party group on the ballot is as follows: President and Vice-President, United States Senator, Governor, Representative to Congress, State Senator and Representative to the Legislature followed by the county offices.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act will group candidates on the general election ballot by the party with which they are identified.