

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 447

H. P. 355

House of Representatives, January 29, 1975

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Talbot of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

**AN ACT Concerning Candidate Access to General Register
of Voters Files and Concerning Voting Machines.**

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

Sec. 1. 21 MRSA, § 201, sub-§ 3, is enacted to read:

3. Candidate access. Any candidate, or his representative, in a special, primary or general election shall have full access, under the supervision of a registrar, to all general register of voters files for 3 months prior to the election in which he is a candidate. This subsection shall allow access by a candidate only to those files containing voters eligible to vote for that candidate.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA, § 1035, sub-§ 2, is enacted to read:

2. No city manager to have custody. No City manager shall have custody over, be in charge of, or exercise supervisory power over any voting machine.

Sec. 3. 21 MRSA, § 2046, sub-§ 2, is enacted to read:

2. Voting machine breakdown. If a voting machine malfunctions or ceases to function before or during any election, the warden shall seal that machine and shall use paper ballots in place of that machine until the completion of the voting.

Sec. 4. 21 MRSA, § 1049, sub-§§ 2 and 3 are enacted to read:

2. Clerk to return keys to Secretary of State. Following an election in which voting machines are used, each clerk shall return the keys to all voting machines to the Secretary of State.

3. Secretary of State to deliver keys to municipal clerks prior to election. The Secretary of State shall deliver the appropriate voting machine keys to election clerks prior to any election in which voting machines will be used.

Sec. 5. 21 MRSA, § 1049-A is enacted to read:

§ 1049-A. Deputy Secretary of State to seal voting machines

Following the return of keys to the Secretary of State under section 1049, the Deputy Secretary of State shall examine each voting machine. If he determines that there are no irregularities and that the voting machine is functioning properly, he shall affix a seal to the voting machine.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act permits candidate access to general register of voters files, provides that no city manager shall have custody over any voting machine, requires the use of paper ballots to substitute for malfunctioning voting machines, provides for the Secretary of State to have custody of voting machine keys between elections, and requires the Deputy Secretary of State to examine and seal voting machines after each election.