

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
107TH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to H.P. 1206, L.D. 1499, Bill,
"AN ACT to Provide for the Appointment or Election of a Fire
Chief in Each Municipality."

Amend said Bill by striking out all of the Title and
inserting in place thereof the following: 'AN ACT Requiring
the Appointment of Deputy Forest Fire Wardens and Providing
for the Appointment or Election of a Fire Chief in Each
Municipality.'

Further amend said Bill by striking out everything after
the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2501, first ¶, last sentence, as last
amended by PL 1973, c. 680, §2, is repealed and the following
enacted in place thereof:

The municipal officers shall appoint one deputy forest fire
warden and may appoint more than one, all such appointments
being subject to the approval of the forest fire warden of the
municipality. The forest fire warden may delegate to one of
the deputies authority to issue burning permits under Title 12,
section 1551.

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA §3773, first ¶, as enacted by PL 1973,
c. 680, §5, is repealed and the following enacted in place
thereof:

Notwithstanding the method of fire protection services provided
by a municipality, a fire chief shall be appointed in each
municipality, unless the municipality shall by vote of its
legislative body provide for the election of a municipal fire
chief by the members of the municipal fire department or volunteer

association, or provide that the voters of the municipality shall elect a municipal fire chief at the regular municipal election or town meeting.

In municipalities served by more than one volunteer association or municipal fire department, the municipality may by vote of its legislative body provide for the election of a fire chief by the members of each fire department or association of the municipality, but, no more than one fire chief shall be elected within each fire protection zone.

When more than one fire chief is provided for in a municipality, each such fire chief elected shall exercise in his fire protection zone all powers and duties of a municipal fire chief and shall control and direct all municipal and volunteer firefighters in the performance of firefighting operations within his fire protection zone, except as provided in this chapter.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to require the appointment of at least one deputy forest fire warden, to allow the voters of the municipality to choose the method of selecting the municipal fire chief/^{and} to allow the voters of the municipality to provide multiple chiefs for multiple departments or associations.

Reported by the Committee on Local and County Government.

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