

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
107TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

(Filing No. H-1096)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 2063, L.D. 2233, Bill,
"AN ACT Relating to the Form of Ballots."

Amend said Bill by striking out everything after the
enacting clause and before the Statement of Fact and inserting
in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 1. 21 MRSA §701, sub-§2, ¶A, as last amended by
PL 1973, c. 160, §1, is further amended to read:

A. Instructions printed. The following instructions
must be printed in bold type at the top of the ballot:
"MAKE A CROSS (X) OR A CHECK MARK (✓) IN THE SQUARE AT
THE ~~LEFT~~ RIGHT OF THE NAME OF THE CANDIDATE FOR WHOM
YOU WISH TO VOTE. FOLLOW DIRECTIONS AS TO THE NUMBER
OF CANDIDATES TO BE NOMINATED FOR EACH OFFICE. YOU
MAY VOTE FOR A PERSON WHOSE NAME DOES NOT APPEAR ON
THE BALLOT BY WRITING IT OR PASTING A STICKER WITH HIS
NAME ON IT IN THE PROPER BLANK SPACE, AND MARKING A
CROSS (X) OR A CHECK MARK (✓) IN THE PROPER SQUARE AT
THE ~~LEFT~~ RIGHT. DO NOT ERASE NAMES. NAMES WRITTEN IN
OR ON STICKERS MUST SHOW THE MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE
OF EACH WRITE-IN CANDIDATE.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA §701, sub-§2, ¶F, as amended by PL 1973,
c. 160, §2, is repealed and the following enacted in place
thereof:

F. Squares printed. A square must be clearly and distinctly printed at the right of the name of each candidate or write-in space so that a voter may designate his choice clearly by a cross (X) or a check mark (✓).

Sec. 3. 21 MRSA §702, sub-§2, ¶C, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 160, §5, is further amended to read:

C. Further instructions. The following instructions must be printed in bold type at the top of the ballot: "MAKE A CROSS (X) OR A CHECK MARK (✓) IN THE SQUARE AT THE ~~LEFT~~ RIGHT OF THE NOMINEE FOR WHOM YOU WISH TO VOTE. FOLLOW DIRECTIONS AS TO THE NUMBER OF NOMINEES TO BE ELECTED TO EACH OFFICE. YOU MAY VOTE FOR A PERSON WHOSE NAME DOES NOT APPEAR ON THE BALLOT BY WRITING IT IN THE PROPER BLANK SPACE AND MARKING A CROSS (X) OR A CHECK MARK (✓) IN THE PROPER SQUARE AT THE ~~LEFT~~ RIGHT. DO NOT ERASE NAMES. NAMES WRITTEN IN MUST SHOW THE MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE OF EACH WRITE-IN CANDIDATE."

Sec. 4. 21 MRSA §702, sub-§2, ¶H, as amended by PL 1973, c. 160, §6, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

H. Squares printed. A square must be clearly and distinctly printed at the right of the name of each

nominee or write-in space so that^a/voter may designate his choice clearly by a cross or a check mark.

Sec. 5. 21 MRSA §921, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1973, c. 414, §39, is further amended to read:

1. Individual square method. ~~He~~ The voter shall place the mark in the square at the ~~left-and-close-to~~ right of each candidate for nomination for whom he wishes to vote.

Sec. 6. 21 MRSA §921, sub-§2, last sentence, as amended by PL 1973, c. 414, §39, is further amended to read:

~~He~~ The voter shall then place the mark in the square at the ~~left~~ right of it.

Sec. 7. 21 MRSA §922, sub-§1, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 414, §40, is further amended to read:

1. Individual square method. ~~He~~ The voter shall make a cross or a check mark in the square at the ~~left-and-close-to~~ right of each nominee for whom he wishes to vote, regardless of political designation, but must follow directions as to the number of nominees to be elected to each office.

Sec. 8. 21 MRSA §922, sub-§2, 2nd sentence, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 414, §40, is further amended to read:

~~He~~ The voter shall then place the mark in the square at the ~~left~~ right of it.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to make all ballots consistent by having the square on the right in all cases.

Reported by the Minority of the Committee on Election Laws.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk
of the House.
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