

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
108TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

(Filing No. H-54)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 68, L.D. 98, Bill, "AN ACT to Provide Accessible Polling Places for the Physically Handicapped and the Elderly."

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'21 MRSA §604, sub-§2, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 761, §26, is amended by adding after the first paragraph the following new paragraph:

Not later than 10 days prior to the date of any election, the clerk shall issue a public notice designating the location of the polling place or places accessible to physically handicapped and elderly persons. No such notice is required in any municipality in which all polling places are accessible to these persons.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to delete 2 of the 3 amendments which the bill proposed.

The amendment deletes the original section 1 of the bill which would have lengthened the time period when physically handicapped or elderly voters shall notify the city or town clerk of their need use a voting place free of architectural barriers.

The amendment also deletes the 2nd paragraph of section 2 of the bill which would have required that, whenever a voting place

is added or changed, that voting place must be accessible as defined under the law. This would cause expense to municipalities.

The amendment retains the provision that the municipal clerk must issue a public notice, at least 10 days before the election, of the location of any voting places which are accessible to the elderly and the handicapped.

Reported by the Committee on Election Laws.

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