

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 176

H. P. 146

House of Representatives, January 27, 1977

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Carey of Waterville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Voter Registration.

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

21 MRSA § 103, is enacted to read:

§ 103. Advance registration

The registrar shall conditionally accept the registration of any person whose age is between 17 years, 6 months, and 18 years and who is otherwise qualified to be a voter when such a person states to the registrar that he will be outside the State, as a student in an educational institution or as a member of the armed forces, during the first period at which he would otherwise be able to register. The registrar shall maintain a separate list of such persons, with a notation of their birthdates, and shall place their names on the voting list as soon as they have attained 18 years of age.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to encourage voter participation by enabling persons just about to turn 18 years old to register in advance if they are about to go out of state to school or to join the armed forces. Such persons often would like to vote by absentee ballot at the first election at which they would be eligible to vote, but were unable to register because they were out of state.