

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 410

H. P. 319 House of Representatives, February 10, 1977
Referred to Committee on Election Laws. Sent up for concurrence and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Raymond of Lewiston.
Cosponsor: Mr. Truman of Biddeford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Establish Withdrawal Dates for Candidates and Nominees.

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

21 MRSA § 1476 and § 1477 are enacted to read:

§ 1476. Withdrawal of candidates or nominees

1. Federal or gubernatorial office. No candidate or nominee for a federal or gubernatorial office may withdraw after 40 days prior to any election.
2. State Senator or county office. No candidate or nominee for State Senator or county office may withdraw after 20 days prior to any election.
3. Representative to the Legislature. No candidate or nominee for Representative to the Legislature may withdraw after 10 days prior to any election.

§ 1477. Duties

1. Withdrawals prior to the withdrawal date. If a candidate or nominee withdraws prior to the withdrawal date, new ballots shall be produced without the candidate's or nominee's name appearing on them.
2. Withdrawals after the withdrawal date. If a candidate or nominee withdraws after the withdrawal date, new ballots shall not be produced.
3. Last day for withdrawal. Immediately after the last day for withdrawal, the Secretary of State shall list all names to be placed on the ballot for any election.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to establish withdrawal dates for all candidates or nominees and to explicitly set forth the duties of the Secretary of State in cases of withdrawal. Presently when an individual withdraws a few days before an election, the Secretary of State is placed in a financial and administrative predicament by producing new ballots or official stickers regardless of the time constraints.