

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OF R.

STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE (Filing No. S-254)  
108TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Bill,  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 355, L.D. 1180, "AN ACT  
to Permit Voter Registration and Enrollment at the Polls on  
Election Day."

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

'Sec. 1. 21 MRSA §42, 1st sentence, is repealed and  
the following enacted in its place:

The registrar may appoint one or more deputies and shall  
appoint temporary deputies to serve on election day as required  
by section 632-A.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA §631, sub-§1, last sentence, as amended  
by PL 1973, c. 782, §8, is repealed and the following enacted  
in its place:

He shall not accept registrations on the business day next prior  
to election day, but he shall accept the registrations of  
persons who register in person before him on election day and of  
those persons who register pursuant to section 632-A.

Sec. 3. 21 MRSA §631, sub-§2, last sentence, as amended by  
PL 1973, c. 414, §26, is repealed and the following enacted in  
its place:

He shall not accept registrations on the 3 business days next  
prior to election day, but he shall accept the registrations of  
those persons who register in person before him on election day  
and of those persons who register pursuant to section 632-A.

Sec. 4. 21 MRSA §631, sub-§3, last sentence, as amended by PL 1973, c. 414, §26, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

He shall not accept registrations on the 5 business days next prior to election day, but he shall accept the registrations of those persons who register in person before him on election day and of those persons who register pursuant to section 632-A.

Sec. 5. 21 MRSA §631, sub-§4, last sentence, as amended by PL 1973, c. 414, §26, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

He shall not accept registrations on the 7 business days next prior to election day, but he shall accept the registrations of those persons who register in person before him on election day and of those persons who register pursuant to section 632-A.

Sec. 6. 21 MRSA §631, sub-§5, last sentence, as amended by PL 1973, c. 414, §26, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

He shall not accept registrations on the 9 business days next prior to election day, but he shall accept the registrations of those persons before him on election day and of those persons who register pursuant to section 632-A.

Sec. 7. 21 MRSA §632-A is enacted to read:

§632-A. Registration and enrollment at voting place on election day

For each voting place in a municipality which is not located

at the same place at which the registrar is holding office hours pursuant to section 831, the registrar shall appoint one or more temporary deputy registrars. Such a deputy registrar shall accept the registrations and enrollments of persons who appear before him at the voting place on an election day. The procedure shall be as provided in sections 102, 131 and 132. The names of persons who register pursuant to this section shall be entered on the voting lists of the municipality.

The registrar shall provide each such deputy registrar with a sufficient number of registration applications and enrollment applications.

#### Statement of Fact

This amendment provides for registration and enrollment of voters at the polls on election day. The current requirement is that all election day registrations must be made at the registrar's office on election day, which leads to the registrar's office being vastly overburdened with registrations at the same time it is supposed to be overseeing the election's process. This bill would disperse these election day registrations to the polls where the persons registering will actually vote and should greatly reduce the election day workload of the registrar's office of each municipality.

The amendment provides that the registration will be carried on by temporary deputy registrars rather than by justices of the peace or notaries public.

J.F. R.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 355, L.D. 1180

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The amendment also clarifies the wording of the bill.

Reported by the Committee on Election Laws.

Reproduced and distributed pursuant to Senate Rule 11-A.

June 15, 1977

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