

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
108TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 374, L.D. 1218, Bill, "AN ACT to Allow Public Inspection of Absentee Ballot Applications and Envelopes."

Amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting ^{in its place} the following:

Sec. 1. 21 MRSA §1263 is enacted to read:

§1263. Applications and envelopes as public records

Absentee ballot applications and absentee ballot return envelopes are public records until the close of voting on election day. After that time, such applications and envelopes are not public records and may be inspected only in accordance with this Title.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA §1577, sub-§1, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 761, §56, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

1. Exceptions. Ballots are not public records and may be inspected only in accordance with this Title.

Statement of Fact

This amendment provides that absentee ballot applications and envelopes are public records, which the public has a right to inspect only until the close of voting on election day. Thereafter, they are no longer public records and may be inspected only in connection with a recount or other such proceeding.

Reported by the Committee on Election Laws.

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