

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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S.
J.F.R.

STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
108TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

(Filing No. S-166)

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1206, L.D. 1434, Bill,
"AN ACT to Repeal Certain Laws Relating to Alcoholic Beverages."

Amend the Bill by inserting after the enacting clause
the following:

'Sec. 1. 28 MRSA §101, first ¶, as repealed and replaced
by PL 1975, c. 741, §5, is repealed and the following enacted
in its place:

The city aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors
of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective
cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed
by law for holding a statewide election, at the time of holding
any primary, special statewide or general election, to vote
upon any one or all of the following questions:

Sec. 2. 28 MRSA §101, 5th ¶ from the end, as repealed and
replaced by PL 1975, c. 741, §5, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 28 MRSA §101, as last repealed and replaced by
PL 1975, c. 741, §5, is amended by adding at the end the
following new paragraphs:

Where a city or town has voted in favor of accepting or
not accepting the ballot questions, that vote shall be effective
until repealed according to the procedure in the following
paragraph.

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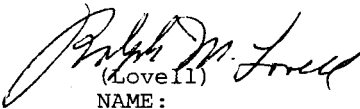
A new vote may be held in a municipality upon one or more of the ballot questions, upon receipt of a petition of electors resident in that municipality, in writing addressed to the municipal officers and signed by at least 15% of the number of voters voting for the gubernatorial candidates at the last statewide election in that municipality, which petition shall be filed with the municipal officers 120 days prior to any general, primary or special statewide election. The ballots for that municipality shall carry questions in accordance with the petition and shall be prepared by the municipality.'

Further amend the Bill by renumbering/sections to read consecutively.

Statement of Fact

This amendment provides that elections on local option questions shall be held at primary, special or general statewide elections instead of at town meetings or municipal elections. Recent experience indicates that only a small percentage of voters will turn out for municipal elections. To return the law to the way it was previously will increase the percentage of citizens expressing their opinions on local option questions.

This amendment also provides that petitions and ballot preparation will be handled on a local level, instead of by the Secretary of State.


(Lovell)

NAME:

COUNTY: York