

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 181

S. P. 95

In Senate, January 25, 1979

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

Presented by Senator Clark of Cumberland.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Provide Accessible Polling Places for the Physically Handicapped and the Elderly.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, it is imperative that polling places in this State be made accessible to physically limited and elderly citizens; and

Whereas, it is vitally important for this conversion to begin at the earliest possible time to avoid unnecessary hardship and to have some facilities ready for the next general election; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

21 MRSA § 604, sub-§ 4 is enacted to read:

4. Physically accessible. After the effective date of this Act, any voting places relocated or added within any voting district shall be made physically accessible to all eligible voters.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to assure that in the future there will be more polling places throughout the State accessible to our physically limited and elderly citizens.