

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 767

H. P. 625

House of Representatives, February 26, 1979

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. M. Nelson of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Require Voters to Show Proof of Residence When They Register to Vote.

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

Sec. 1. 21 MRSA § 102, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 496, § 5, is further amended by adding after the first ¶, a new ¶ to read:

A person shall, before the registrar registers him as a voter, present satisfactory proof to the registrar that his established residence is the one claimed. Satisfactory proof includes a driver's license, or any other form of reliable and easily obtainable identification in common use which lists the person's name and his established residence.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA § 102-A, sub-§ 2, as enacted by PL 1965, c. 154, is amended to read:

2. Placement on voting list. Upon receipt of the application by the registrar of voters or the board of registration when in open session **and upon presentation of satisfactory proof of residence in accordance with section 102**, the applicant's name shall be entered on the voting lists of the municipality.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires that any person registering to vote present to the registrar satisfactory proof of identification, such as a driver's license or any other form of common identification, to prove that his established residence is the one he claims before the registrar.

This requirement will cut down the possibility of fraudulent registration, but will not impede the registration process.