

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 192**

H. P. 170

House of Representatives, January 12, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Brenerman of Portland.

Cosponsors: Mr. Manning of Portland, Mr. Nadeau of Lewiston and Mr. J. Diamond of Bangor.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

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**AN ACT to Permit Persons who Register Voters on Election Day to Vote by  
Absentee Ballot.**

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

**Sec. 1. 21 MRSA § 1258 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:**

**§ 1258. Personal vote required when possible**

**Unless engaged in registering voters on election day, a person who has voted by absentee ballot, but who is present in the municipality and able to vote in person at the voting place on election day shall do so.**

**Sec. 2. 21 MRSA § 1579, sub-§ 4, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 496, § 38, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:**

**4. Failure to vote in person. A person who has voted by absentee ballot but who is present and able to vote in person at the proper voting place on election day and fails to do so, unless that person was engaged in registering voters on election day;**

## STATEMENT OF FACT

Persons who register voters on election day are frequently unable to vote at all, because of the large number of late registrations. This bill would permit those people to vote by absentee ballot.