

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 358

S. P. 150

In Senate, January 22, 1981

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

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Minkowsky of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Clarify Certain Provisions of the Municipal Election Laws.

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

Sec. 1. 30 MRSA § 2061, sub-§ 5, ¶ G, is amended to read:

G. ~~At least 55 ballots for each 50 registered voters~~ A sufficient number of ballots shall be printed and furnished, and a record of the number shall be kept by the clerk. The printed ballots shall be packaged in convenient blocks so that they may be removed separately.

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA § 2061, sub-§ 8, is amended to read:

8. After votes counted, ballots delivered to clerk. After the ballot clerks have counted and tabulated the votes cast, the moderator shall deliver the ballots to the clerk who shall seal them in a suitable package and keep them in his office for ~~6~~ 2 months.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to reduce the number of ballots which must be printed for an election and to reduce the length of time which ballots must be kept following an election.

Due to the high cost of paper and printing, only the number of ballots needed

at any election should be printed. The clerk of the municipality should be able to determine the number needed.

There is no need to keep the ballots for such a long period of time. The time period for inspections and recounts has lapsed and the ballots should be disposed of. Ballots in state elections are only kept for a period of 2 months.