

# 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. 365**

S. P. 157

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.

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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 Pertaining to Ballot Inspections and Recounts in Municipal Elections.**

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

30 MRSA § 2065 is amended to read:

**§ 2065. Referendum ballot inspection and recount procedure**

Upon written application of ~~10%~~ 10 of the persons whose names were checked on the voting list at any municipal referendum or ballot question under section 1915 or 2061, a ballot inspection or a recount hearing shall be granted. The time limits, rules and all other matters applying to candidates shall apply equally to applicants for either the inspection or recount.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to provide for inspection or recount for charter amendments to change the number of voters who must request an inspection or recount from 10% of the voters to 10 voters. Present statutes do not provide for an inspection or recount provision for charter amendments. The present law requiring 10% of the persons who voted to request an inspection or recount for local referendum or ballot questions is unreasonable. This makes it impossible for any inspections or recounts to be held.