

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-294)  
110TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 767, L.D. 903, Bill,  
"AN ACT to Amend the Provisions for Election as Voter Member  
of a County Charter Commission."

Amend the Bill in section 3 by striking out all of  
paragraph H and inserting in its place the following:

'H. For a candidate for the office of county charter  
commission member, at least 50 and not more than 80  
voters.'

Further amend the Bill by inserting at the end before the  
statement of fact the following:

'Sec. 9 30 MRSA §1552, sub-§1, ¶B, first sentence, as  
repealed and replaced by PL 1979, c. 671, §9, is amended  
to read:

Appointive members shall be residents of the county  
but, unless impossible due to the composition of the  
county's districts and the residences of any of those eligible  
under this paragraph to be appointive members, no person shall may  
be appointed who is a resident of a municipality in which  
another member resides.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment reduces the number of voter signatures  
required to be on a nomination petition for county charter  
commission member to the number of signatures a candidate for  
State Representative must acquire.

The amendment also remedies a mechanical problem concerning appointive members of a county charter commission. Currently, the law requires that the 3 appointive members include a county officer, a municipal officer and State Legislator. The elected members are to be from each of a county's districts. The law also requires that the appointive members not reside in the same municipality as another member. In certain counties, due to the composition of the county's districts, this requirement may be impossible to meet. For example, in Androscoggin County, Lewiston comprises one district and Auburn comprises a 2nd district. All of the county officers in Androscoggin County reside in either Lewiston or Auburn. Thus, in Androscoggin County it would be impossible to appoint a county officer as a charter commission member who did not reside in the same municipality as an elected member.

Reported by the Committee on Local and County Government.  
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