

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1619

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-472)
110TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1506, L.D. 1619, Bill, "AN ACT to Revise the Law Concerning Absentee Voting."

Amend the Bill by striking out all of sections 2 and 3 and inserting in their place the following:

'Sec. 2. 21 MRSA §1252, sub-§1 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

1. Absentee ballots to be identical. Absentee ballots shall be identical in respect to the regular ballots used at an election, except that the words "Absentee Ballot" shall be printed conspicuously on at least one side of the folded ballot.

Sec. 3. 21 MRSA §1252, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1973, c. 718, is further amended by adding at the end a new sentence to read: It shall contain a conspicuously-printed summary warning of the provisions of Title 17-A, section 703.

Sec. 4. 21 MRSA §1252, sub-§2-A, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 387, §1, is amended to read:

2-A. Form of envelope. The return envelope in which the absentee ballot is to be placed shall include on its outside a conspicuously printed summary warning to the voter of the provisions of section 1258 ~~and of~~, section 1579, ~~subsection-13~~ subsections 4 and 15, and Title 17-A, section 703.

Sec. 5. 21 MRSA §1253, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Denial of application. Whenever an application for an absentee ballot is denied, the municipal clerk shall notify the applicant forthwith in writing of the reason for the denial.'

Statement of Fact

The purposes of this amendment are to:

1. Clarify forgery provisions in the Maine Criminal Code with respect to absentee voting;
2. Reduce printing costs for absentee ballots;
3. Clarify the nature of the warning printed on ballot applications and return envelopes; and
4. Insure that applicants whose absentee ballot applications are denied will be promptly notified.

Filed by Mrs. Kany of Waterville.
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of the House.

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