

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 6

6
7 H.P. 10

House of Representatives, January 5, 1983

8 Reference to the Committee on Election Laws suggested and ordered
9 printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Racine of Biddeford.

Cosponsors: Representative Theriault of Fort Kent, Representative
11 Telow of Lewiston and Representative Pouliot of Lewiston.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT Concerning the Arrangement of
18 Names on Primary and General Election Ballots.
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 21 MRSA §701, sub-§2, ¶B, as amended by
23 PL 1973, c. 414, §30, is repealed and the following
24 enacted in its place:

25 B. Name and residence of candidate. The ballot
26 must contain the name, without any title, and
27 place of residence of each candidate arranged
28 under the proper office designation. Names of
29 candidates shall be arranged surname first in
30 alphabetical order. Starting with elections in
31 1984, and every other year thereafter, the names
32 of candidates shall be arranged surname first in

1 reverse alphabetical order. The name of each
2 candidate may be printed on the ballot in only
3 one space.

4 Sec. 2. 21 MRSA §702, sub-§1, as repealed and
5 replaced by PL 1973, c. 414, §32, is repealed and the
6 following enacted in its place:

7 1. Arrangement. The ballot must contain the
8 name, without any title, and municipality of resi-
9 dence of each nominee, arranged under the proper
10 office designation. Names of candidates shall be
11 arranged surname first in alphabetical order. Start-
12 ing with elections in 1984, and every other year
13 thereafter, the names of candidates shall be arranged
14 surname first in reverse alphabetical order.

15 STATEMENT OF FACT

16 The purpose of this bill is to establish an
17 alternating system for the arrangement of names on
18 primary and general election ballots. Presently,
19 names appear in alphabetical order only. This bill
20 requires names to appear in reverse alphabetical
21 order every other year.

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