MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1	L.D. 937
2	(Filing No. H- 320)
3 4 5	STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 111TH LEGISLATURE
6	FIRST REGULAR SESSION
7 8 9 10	HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 728, L.D. 937, Bill, "AN ACT to Make Voting Places more Accessible to the Elderly and Handicapped."
11 12 13	Amend the amendment by striking out everything after the title and inserting in its place the following:
14 15	'Amend the bill by striking out all of section land inserting in its place the following:
16 17	<pre>Sec. 1. 21 MRSA §604, sub-§1, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 165, §2, is amended to read:</pre>
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	A. "Accessible voting place" means a voting place in a building in which has at least one entrance that provides access, by ramp or otherwise, to physically handicapped or elderly voters and in which the voting place is located on the first floor or is accessible by elevator or in a building which meets the part of the building set aside for voting meets the requirements for accessible routes of the 1981 standards of construction described in Title 25, chapter 331.
28 29	Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting in its place the following:
30 31 32	Sec. 2. 21 MRSA §604, sub-§2, as amended by PI 1977, c. 233, §§1 and 2, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:
33 34 35 36	2. Voting places. Before July 1, 1985, each municipality shall provide at least one voting place which is in a building which is accessible as defined in subsection 1.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 728

A. The Secretary of State shall grant a waiver from the requirements of this subsection to any 3 municipality which can satisfactorily demonstrate 4 that those requirements ought not to apply or would create an extreme hardship. Factors which 5 the Secretary of State may consider in making that determination include, but are not limited 6 7 8 to, the following: The municipality has no hand-9 icapped voters and the physical limitations of a 10 voting place make it impractical to provide an 11 accessible voting place as described in subsec-12 tion 1. The Secretary of State shall promulgate in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 13 14 15 II, rules governing the circumstances and proce-16 dures for granting a waiver under this paragraph. 17

STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of this amendment is to clarify that only that part of a building set aside as the voting place must be accessible to disabled and elderly persons and that only the accessible route standard of construction must be satisfied.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 728

The amendment also allows for a waiver to be granted by the Secretary of State to towns which satisfactorily demonstrate that the requirement to provide at least one accessible voting place in the town ought not to apply and requires the Secretary of State to adopt rules governing the granting of waivers.

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Filed by Rep. Nadeau of Lewiston Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House 6/1/83 (Filing No. H-320)