

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 350

6
7 H.P. 280

House of Representatives, February 1, 1985

8 Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and ordered
9 printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Melendy of Rockland.

11 Cosponsored by Representative Pouliot of Lewiston, Representative
Holloway of Edgecomb and Representative Cahill of Woolwich.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Allow Absentee Voting in a Clerk's
18 Presence.
19

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

22 21 MRSA §1253, sub-§5, as amended by PL 1977, c.
23 496, §26, is further amended to read:

24 5. Absentee voting in clerk's presence. A per-
25 son who wishes to vote by absentee ballot because he
26 will not be present in the municipality or able to
27 vote in person at the voting place on election day
28 may, without completing an application, vote by ab-
29 sentee ballot before in the presence of the clerk or
30 deputy clerk of the municipality in the clerk's of-
31 fice during regular business hours. The method of
32 voting shall otherwise be as prescribed in this chap-
33 ter.

34 The clerk or deputy clerk shall determine whether the
35 affidavit on the return envelope is properly com-

1 pleted.

2 STATEMENT OF FACT

3 Current law allows individuals to vote by absen-
4 tee ballot before the clerk in the clerk's office
5 without completing an application. This bill allows
6 individuals to vote by absentee ballot in the pres-
7 ence of a clerk anywhere without completing an appli-
8 cation. Such absentee voting would not be restricted
9 to the clerk's office.

10 This bill allows clerks, if they wish, to conduct
11 absentee voting in nursing homes and other institu-
12 tions prior to election day without requiring the
13 residents of such institutions to complete applica-
14 tions for absentee ballots.

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