

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 (New Draft of H.P. 86, L.D. 106)  
2 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
3

4 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
5

6 Legislative Document

No. 1540

8 H.P. 1061

House of Representatives, May 17, 1985

9 Reported by Representative Reeves from the Committee on Legal Affairs  
10 and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill sponsored by Representative  
11 Telow of Lewiston.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

12  
13 STATE OF MAINE  
14

15 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
16 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE  
17

18 AN ACT Pertaining to Polling Times.  
19

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

22 21-A MRSA §626, sub-§§1 and 2, as enacted by PL  
23 1985, c. 161, §6, are amended to read:

24 1. Opening time flexible. The polls must be  
25 opened no earlier than 6 a.m. and no later than ~~10~~ 9  
26 a.m. on election day. The municipal officers of each  
27 municipality shall determine the time of opening the  
28 polls within these limits.

29 2. Closing time fixed. ~~Except in a municipality~~  
30 ~~which uses voting machines or where all registered~~  
31 ~~voters have voted,~~ ~~the~~ The polls must be closed at 8  
32 p.m. on election day. ~~If voting machines are used in~~  
33 ~~a voting place,~~ the municipal officers may permit  
34 these polls to remain open until 9 p.m. The polls  
35 may be closed before 8 p.m. in a municipality in

1 which every registered voter of the municipality has  
2 voted in the election-

3 A. The warden shall give all voters present at  
4 the voting place at closing time the opportunity  
5 to vote. Any person who arrives at the voting  
6 place after the time for closing the polls has  
7 passed may not vote.

8 STATEMENT OF FACT

9 This new draft amends the recodified election  
10 laws to mandate 2 things. First, polls must be  
11 opened by 9 a.m. on all statewide election days, but  
12 not earlier than 6 a.m. Second, this new draft sets  
13 a uniform closing time at 8 p.m. All polls must re-  
14 main open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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