

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

1 (New Draft of H.P. 461, L.D. 662)
2 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
3

4 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
5

6 Legislative Document

No. 1587

8 H.P. 1094

House of Representatives, May 24, 1985

9 Reported by Representative Perry from the Committee on Legal Affairs
10 and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill presented by Representative
11 Ingraham of Houlton.

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 to Provide for a Setup Period
19 Prior to Opening of the Polls.
20

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

23 21-A MRSA §651, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1985, c.
24 161, §6, is amended to read:

25 2. Election materials distributed and posted.
26 At any time after the materials are received and be-
27 fore the polls are open, the clerk may open the pack-
28 ages or boxes of election materials, break the seals
29 on the packages not marked "ballots," and use the ma-
30 terials for instructional purposes. Then the clerk
31 or his designated agents shall post an adequate num-
32 ber of instruction posters, posters of specimen bal-
33 lots for constitutional resolutions and statewide
34 referenda, including the Attorney General's explana-
35 tory statements prepared under Title 1, section 353,
36 materials setting out the full text of constitutional

1 resolutions and statewide referenda, and specimen
2 ballots in the voting room outside the guardrail en-
3 closure. When the polls are opened, or no more than
4 1/2 hour before the opening of the polls, the warden
5 shall break the seals on the packages containing the
6 ballots and distribute the ballots to the election
7 clerks in charge of them. The breaking of the seals
8 on the packages containing the ballots is a public
9 proceeding and any member of the public may be
10 present.

11 STATEMENT OF FACT

12 The original bill permits election wardens to
13 open packages containing ballots 1/2 hour prior to
14 the opening of the polls. This permits election of-
15 ficials to prepare all materials prior to the opening
16 of the polls.

17 This new draft clarifies that the breaking of the
18 seals on the packages containing ballots is open to
19 the public.

20 3699051685