

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

NO. 74
6

7 H.P. 71 House of Representatives, January 26, 1987
8 Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and
ordered printed.

9 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative Diamond of Bangor.

10 Cosponsored by Representative Bost of Orono and
Representative Cote of Auburn.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT Concerning the Approval of Voting
18 Devices.
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §810 is enacted to read:

23 §810. Approval of voting devices

24 The Secretary of State may make reasonable regu-
25 lations governing the use and type of voting devices
26 and voting systems. The types of voting devices may
27 be limited to minimize the cost of producing ballot
28 materials or to limit voter confusion with differing
29 systems.

30 Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §841, sub-§6, as enacted by PL
31 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended to read:

6. Electronic voting system. "Electronic voting system" means a system in which votes are recorded on paper ballots ~~utilizing special marking devices~~ or on ballot cards utilizing special styluses as part of a voting device and these votes are subsequently counted and tabulated by automatic tabulating equipment at one or more counting centers.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purposes of this bill are as follows.

Section 1. Currently, all voting devices meeting the technical requirements of the law must be approved. This may result in a large variety of devices being approved, thus increasing the cost of preparing specialized ballot forms and causing confusion for voters who move from one municipality to another. Limiting the variety of these devices should minimize these problems.

Section 2. Some new electronic voting systems do not require "special marking devices" and this will not be approved for use in state elections even though that may be desirable.

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