

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2109

(Filing No. H- 607)

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
113TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1549, L.D. 2109,
Bill, "AN ACT to Clarify Reporting Requirements under
the Campaign Finance Laws."

Amend the Bill by striking out all of the title
and inserting in its place the following: 'AN ACT to
Amend the Election Laws.'

Further amend the Bill by striking out everything
after the enacting clause and inserting in its place
the following:

'Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §335, sub-§8, as enacted by
PL 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended to read:

8. When filed. A primary petition must be filed
in the office of the Secretary of State before 5 p.m.
on April ~~1st~~ 2nd of the election year in which it
is to be used.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1017, sub-§3, ~~1A~~, as enacted
by PL 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended to read:

A. Reports shall be filed not later than 5 p.m.
on the 7th day before the date on which an
election is held and must be complete as of the
11th day before that date. The first reports
filed in a year in which an election is held must
include all contributions made to and all
expenditures made by the candidate or committee as

1 of the completion date and must cover not less
2 than the 6 months immediately preceding the
3 completion date. If a previous report was filed,
4 the report must cover the period from the last
5 completion date. Other reports must be complete
6 for the filing period. A filing period is that
7 period of time from one completion date to the
8 next completion date.'

9

STATEMENT OF FACT

10 This amendment replaces the original bill and
11 makes 2 changes to the election laws. First, the
12 filing date for primary nomination papers is moved
13 from April 1st to April 2nd.

14 Second, the amendment closes a potential loophole
15 in current law concerning contributions and
16 expenditures made early in a campaign. Under current
17 law, expenditures and contributions made more than 6
18 months before the 11th day before the election are not
19 clearly included in campaign financing reports. This
20 amendment clarifies that all contributions and
21 expenditures made before the 11th day before the
22 election must be reported. For committees and
23 candidates which have not accepted contributions or
24 made expenditures more than 6 months before the 11th
25 day before the election, the report must still cover
26 that 6-month period. For committees or candidates
27 which have filed reports in the past, the report need
28 cover only that period since the last report
29 completion date.

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