

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 961, L.D. 1339, Bill, "An Act to Require Municipalities to Leave the Names of Women Who Marry on Voting Registration Records"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'21-A MRSA §128, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Marriage; notice of inquiry. If the registrar determines that a voter has married, the registrar shall not for that reason alone remove the voter's name from the voting list. The registrar may send a notice inquiring whether, as a result of marriage, that voter's name or address has been changed. Nothing in this subsection relieves a voter of the duty to give the registrar written notice of a change of name or address in accordance with section 129.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment, which is fully consistent with the intent of the original bill, makes it clear that the registrar of a municipal board of registration may not remove a voter's name from the voting list simply because the registrar is made aware that the voter has married. This change in the law reflects the growing tendency of married women to retain their own names after marriage.

This amendment permits the registrar to send a notice to a newly married person inquiring whether as a result of the marriage that person's name or address has changed.

Finally, the amendment does not relieve married persons of the duty imposed on all voters by current law to notify the registrar of changes of name or address.