

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

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Legislative Document

No. 218

H.P. 146

House of Representatives, January 31, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative MacBRIDE of Presque Isle.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

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**An Act to Amend Laws Relating to Political Campaigning.**

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

21-A MRSA §682, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1985, c. 383, §11,  
is further amended to read:

3. **Advertising prohibited.** No person may display or distribute any advertising material or operate any advertising medium, including a sound amplification device, intended to influence the opinion of any voter, within 250 feet of the entrance to either the voting place or the registrar's office. The term "sound amplification device" includes, but is not limited to, sound trucks, loudspeakers and blowhorns. The term "advertising material" includes, but is not limited to, all written material that includes the name or photograph of any candidate.

A. This subsection does not apply to advertising material on automobiles traveling to and from the voting place. It does not prohibit a person from passing out stickers at the voting place which are to be pasted on the ballot at a primary election. It does not prohibit a person, other than an election official, from wearing a campaign button when the longest dimension of the button does not exceed 3 inches.

B. A person who knowingly engages in activities prohibited by this section is guilty of a Class E crime.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

Current law prohibits the display of "advertising material" intended to influence voters within 250 feet of the polls on election day, but does not define "advertising material." This bill provides that advertising material includes all written material containing the name or photograph of a candidate, and prohibits distribution of those items within 250 feet of the polls on election day.