## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 1105

H.P. 773

House of Representatives, March 13, 1991

Submitted by the Department of the Secretary of State pursuant to Joint Rule 24. Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative LARRIVEE of Gorham.

Cosponsored by Representative KONTOS of Windham.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Encourage Students to Register and Vote.



Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follo
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Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §155, first ¶, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended to read:

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The registrar shall conditionally accept the registration and enrollment of any person whose-age who is between 17 years,-6 menths and 18 years of age, and who is otherwise qualified to be a voter,-when-that-person states to the registrar that he will be entside—the—State,—as—a—student—in—an—educational—institution—or as—a—member—of—the—Armed Forces,—during—the—first—period—at—which he—would—otherwise—be—able—to—register. The registrar shall maintain a separate list of these persons, with a notation of their birthdates, and shall place their names on the voting list as soon as they have attained 18 years of age.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §503, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Student clerks. In addition to the election clerks appointed under subsection 1, the clerk may appoint persons who are 15 years to 18 years of age to serve as election clerks for a specific election.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

The bill allows residents who are 17 years of age to register to vote at any time during their 17th year. At present, they can only register during the 6 months prior to their 18th birthday. It also removes the requirement that in order to register to vote residents who are 17 years of age must state that they will be outside the State at an educational institution or in the Armed Forces when they turn 18 years of age.

This bill also allows municipal clerks to appoint student clerks who are 15 years to 18 years of age to serve as poll workers for specific elections.

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