

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. O. S.

L.D. 156

(Filing No. H- 401 )

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
116TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 114, L.D. 156, Bill, "An Act Authorizing Presidential Preference Primary Elections in the State"

Amend the bill in section 3 in that part designated "~~§411.~~" by striking out all of subsection 1 and inserting in its place the following:

'1. Determination of primary. When the state committee of a political party certifies that there is a contest among candidates for nomination as the presidential candidate of the party and that the state committee votes to conduct a presidential primary election at the state committee's convention the year before the primary, the State shall hold a presidential primary election.'

Further amend the bill in section 3 by striking out all of that part designated "~~§412.~~" and inserting in its place the following:

'§412. Petitions or filing fees

A candidate for the office of president must either file a petition or pay a filing fee to the Secretary of State for that candidate's name to be placed on the ballot.

1. Petitions. A candidate for the office of president who does not pay a filing fee to the Secretary of State pursuant to subsection 2 must file with the Secretary of State a petition with at least 4,000 and not more than 6,000 voters' signatures. By July 1st of the year preceding each presidential election year, the Secretary of State shall prepare and make available petitions for circulation by persons desiring to be contestants

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

in the state presidential preference primary of any party. The petitions must meet the requirements of sections 335 and 336, excluding section 335, subsections 6 and 8 and must be filed at least 45 days before the presidential preference primary election.

**2. Filing fees.** A candidate for the office of president who does not file a petition with the Secretary of State pursuant to subsection 1 must pay a \$2,500 filing fee to the Secretary of State. A candidate must pay the filing fee at the time that candidate files a declaration of candidacy.'

Further amend the bill in section 3 in that part designated "~~§414.~~" in subsection 1 by striking out all of paragraph C.

Further amend the bill in section 3 in that part designated "~~§415.~~" in subsection 2 by striking out all of paragraph A.

Further amend the bill in section 3 in that part designated "~~§415.~~" in subsection 2 by relettering the paragraphs to read consecutively.

Further amend the bill in section 3 in that part designated "~~§415.~~" in subsection 2 in paragraph B in the 3rd line (page 3, line 33 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "not excluded under paragraph A"

Further amend the bill in section 4 in that part designated "~~§601-A.~~" in subsection 2 in paragraph A in the 5th line (page 4, line 24 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "VOTE." the following: 'YOU MAY VOTE FOR ONE PERSON ONLY.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the statement of fact the following:

#### FISCAL NOTE

Providing an option to presidential primary candidates to either pay a \$2,500 filing fee or obtain a petition with a significant number of signatures may increase future General Fund revenues. The amounts can not be determined at this time.'

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The amendment makes it optional for political parties to hold presidential preference primaries. Each party must choose whether or not to hold a preference primary at each party's state committee convention the year before the primary.

R. of S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 114, L.D. 156

2 The amendment requires a candidate for president to file  
with the Secretary of State a petition with at least 4,000 and no  
4 more than 6,000 voters' signatures or to pay a \$2,500 filing fee  
to the Secretary of State, in order for that candidate to be  
placed on the ballot.

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8 The amendment removes the condition that the Secretary of  
State has sole discretion to determine the eligibility of a  
candidate in certain cases.

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12 The amendment removes the condition that a candidate who  
does not receive at least 5% of the total votes cast in a primary  
election receives no delegates.

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16 The amendment also makes a clarification that a voter may  
vote for only one person on the presidential preference primary  
ballot.

18  
The amendment adds a fiscal note.

Reported by the Committee on Legal Affairs  
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the  
House  
5/24/93 (Filing No. H-401)