

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 316

S.P. 115

In Senate, February 4, 1993

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Convening of Town Meetings.

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator PEARSON of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senator O'DEA of Penobscot.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
as emergencies; and

4
6 Whereas, typically town meetings are held beginning in the
month of March; and

8
10 Whereas, unless this legislation is enacted as an emergency
measure, the alternative procedures for moderation of town
meetings will not be available to municipalities until 1994; and

12
14 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
16 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
safety; now, therefore,

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

20 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §2524, sub-§7 is enacted to read:**

22 7. Alternate procedure. Notwithstanding any other
24 provision of this section, the municipal officers may authorize
the clerk or other municipal officer to fulfill all functions of
26 moderator involving supervision of voting. The election of the
moderator to conduct the town meeting, following the completion
of the voting, may occur as an article in the warrant under
28 section 2523.

30 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

32

34 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

36 Currently, municipalities are required to elect a moderator
to supervise voting. This bill allows the town clerk or other
38 person authorized by the municipal officers to perform this
function and the moderator to be elected as part of the regular
40 meeting.