

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 563

H.P. 437

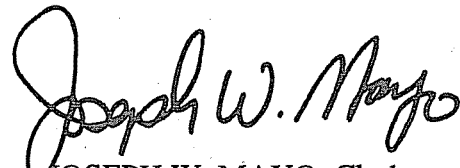
House of Representatives, February 18, 1993

An Act to Amend the Laws Concerning Reapportionment.

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.
Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake.

Cosponsored by Representative: MICHAUD of East Millinocket, Senator: HANLEY of Oxford.

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

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6 Whereas, this legislation must be enacted as an emergency
measure to ensure that the time frame for congressional district
reapportionment conforms to the Constitution of Maine; and

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

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

16 **Sec. 1.** 21-A MRSA §1201, sub-§7, ¶ C, as enacted by PL 1985, c.
18 161, §6, is amended to read:

20 C. In 1983 and every 10 years thereafter, when the
Secretary of State has received notification of the number
22 of congressional seats to which the State is entitled and
the Federal Decennial Census population count is final, the
24 apportionment commission established pursuant to the
Constitution of Maine, Article IV, Part Third, Section 1-A,
26 shall review the existing congressional districts. If the
districts do not conform to Supreme Judicial Court
28 guidelines, the commission shall reapportion the State into
congressional districts.

30 In making such a reapportionment, the commission shall
32 ~~insure~~ ensure that each congressional district is formed of
compact and contiguous territory and crosses political
34 subdivisions the least number of times necessary to
establish as equally populated districts as possible. The
36 commission shall submit its plan to the Clerk of the House
no later than 90 ~~120~~ calendar days after ~~appointment of the~~
38 ~~commission~~ the convening of the Legislature in which
apportionment is required. The Legislature shall enact the
40 submitted plan of the commission or a plan of its own in
regular or special session by a vote of 2/3 of the members
42 of each house within 30 calendar days after the plan is
submitted to the Clerk of the House. This action is subject
44 to the Governor's approval, as provided in the Constitution
of Maine, Article IV, Part Third, Section 2.

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

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of this bill is to conform the statutory language concerning congressional district reapportionment to the Constitution of Maine to require the Maine Apportionment Commission to submit its plan to the Clerk of the House of Representatives no later than 120 days after the Legislature convenes.