

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

---

Legislative Document

No. 1442

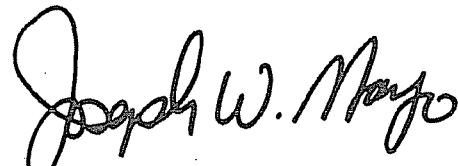
H.P. 1076

House of Representatives, May 5, 1993

**An Act to Distribute the Power and Privilege of Serving in Elected Office.**

---

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

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative MICHAEL of Auburn.  
Cosponsored by Senator HALL of Piscataquis and  
Representatives: CAMPBELL of Holden, COFFMAN of Old Town, WINN of Glenburn,  
Senator: LUTHER of Oxford.

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

2  
4        Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §601, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

6            This section is repealed April 1, 1996.

8        Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §601-B is enacted to read:

10        §601-B. Primary ballot

12            The Secretary of State shall prepare the primary election ballots according to the following provisions.

14            1. Arrangement. The ballot must be arranged in one column.

16            2. Content. The ballot must contain the things listed in this section. It may contain no others.

18            A. The following instructions must be printed in bold type at the top of the ballot: "MAKE A CROSS (X) OR A CHECK MARK ( ) IN THE SQUARE AT THE LEFT OF THE NAME OF THE CANDIDATE FOR WHOM YOU WISH TO VOTE. YOU MAY VOTE FOR A PERSON WHOSE NAME DOES NOT APPEAR ON THE BALLOT BY WRITING IT OR PASTING A STICKER WITH THE PERSON'S NAME AND MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE ON IT IN THE PROPER BLANK SPACE AND MARKING THE SQUARE AT THE LEFT. DO NOT ERASE NAMES."

20            B. Except as provided in subsection 3, the ballot must contain the name, without any title, and place of residence of each candidate, arranged alphabetically with the last name first, under the proper office designation. The name of each candidate may be printed on the ballot in only one space.

22            C. When 2 United States Senators or 2 county commissioners are to be nominated, the term of office sought by each candidate must be specified on the ballot.

24            D. At the end of the list of candidates for nomination to each office, there must be left as many blank spaces as there are vacancies to be filled. These spaces may be used by a voter to write or paste in the name and municipality of residence of any person for whom the voter desires to vote, as provided in section 691, subsection 2.

26            E. Words of explanation such as "Vote for one" or "Vote for not more than 2" must be printed on the ballot to assist the voter in voting correctly.

2 F. A square must be printed at the left of and close to the  
4 name of each candidate or write-in space, so that a voter  
may designate the voter's choice clearly by a cross (X) or a  
check mark ( ).

6 G. On the front and back of the folded ballot must be  
8 printed "Official (name of political party) Primary Ballot  
for (name of voting place for which ballot was prepared)",  
10 the date of the election and a facsimile of the state seal.

12 H. The name of each nominee must appear on the ballot as  
14 follows: Last name first, in block capital letters,  
followed by the first name and middle name or initial; or  
16 last name first in block capital letters, followed by the  
first name or the first initial and the middle name.

18 3. Certain names prohibited. A person's name may not  
appear on the ballot as a candidate under the following  
20 circumstances:

22 A. For State Senator if the person has served in that  
office for 8 consecutive years;

24 B. For Representative to the Legislature if the person has  
served in that office for 8 consecutive years;

26 C. For United States Senator if the person has served in  
28 that office for 12 consecutive years; and

30 D. For Representative to Congress if the person has served  
32 in that office for 8 consecutive years.

34 4. Order of offices. The order of offices on the ballot is  
as follows: United States Senator, Governor, Representative to  
36 Congress, State Senator and Representative to the Legislature  
followed by the county offices.

38 5. Distinctively colored. The ballots must be printed  
40 separately for each political party on paper of a distinctive  
color: White for the party that cast the greatest number of  
42 votes for Governor at the last gubernatorial election, yellow for  
the 2nd highest, blue for the 3rd highest and green for the 4th  
44 highest. For municipalities that include more than one single  
member district of the House of Representatives, or parts of more  
46 than one single member district, the Secretary of State may  
prepare primary election ballots of one or more distinctive  
48 colors for each single member district or part of a single member  
district within the municipality.

50 This section takes effect April 1, 1996.

2

4

## STATEMENT OF FACT

6

This bill proposes to establish term limits for state Legislators and members of the United States Congress. The bill

8

limits state Legislators and members of the United States House of Representatives to 4 consecutive terms and members of the

10

United States Senate to 2 consecutive terms.