

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 1452

S.P. 460

In Senate, May 6, 1993

An Act Concerning the Subject Matter of Referenda.

Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs 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 BEGLEY of Lincoln.

Cosponsored by Representatives: SIMONEAU of Thomaston, SPEAR of Nobleboro.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §905, sub-§4 is enacted to read:**

6 4. Unity of referendum questions. In conducting the review
8 specified in subsection 1, the Secretary of State shall review
10 the proposed statutory enactment or amendment and determine if
12 more than one policy objective is addressed. If the Secretary of
14 State determines that more than one policy objective is
16 addressed, the Secretary of State may not approve a petition
18 unless the petition separately identifies each policy objective
20 and proposes a ballot question for each policy objective.

22 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §906, sub-§6, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1987, c.**
24 **119, §2, is amended to read:**

26 B. With respect to an initiative referenda referendum that
28 proposes the enactment or amendment of a law that addresses
30 a single policy objective, the question shall must be
32 presented to the voters in substantially the following form:

34 "Do you favor the changes in Maine law concerning (the
36 subject matter of the law) proposed by citizen petition?"

38 **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §906, sub-§6, ¶F is enacted to read:**

40 F. In the event that an initiative referendum proposes the
42 enactment or amendment of a law that addresses more than one
policy objective the Secretary of State shall pose a
question to the voters for each proposed policy objective.

34 STATEMENT OF FACT

36 This bill amends the laws governing initiative petitions to
38 require that the voters be presented with a separate question for
40 each policy objective that a proposed initiative addresses. The
42 Secretary of State is given the duty of reviewing all initiative
petitions to determine if there are multiple policy objectives,
and, if so, must ensure that a separate question is presented for
each policy objective.