

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 786

S.P. 288

In Senate, March 9, 1995

### **An Act to Prohibit Campaign Signs on Public Property.**

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Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator ABROMSON of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Senators: FERGUSON of Oxford, GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock, LONGLEY of Waldo, Representatives: ETNIER of Harpswell, GIERINGER of Portland, TUTTLE of Sanford.

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

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §32, sub-§1, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 473, §2 and affected by §46, is amended to read:

B. Knowingly displays or distributes political advertisements in or on ~~state-owned-or-state-leased~~ property owned or leased by the State or a political subdivision as defined in Title 30-A, section 2252.

This paragraph does not apply to ~~acts-on-state-highways-or~~ displays on motor vehicles not owned by the State or a political subdivision while temporarily parked in parking areas on land maintained by the State or a political subdivision. This paragraph does not apply to acts in or on a ~~state-owned-or-state-leased~~ building owned or leased by the State or a political subdivision for a period beginning 48 hours before and ending 48 hours after that building is used by a political party to conduct a political activity within the building.

Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §1913-A, sub-§1, ¶H, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 318, §3, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 23 MRSA §1913-A, sub-§2, ¶D, as amended by PL 1991, c. 387, §1, is further amended to read:

D. Signs erected by nonprofit historical and cultural institutions. Each institution ~~which~~ that has certified its nonprofit status with the commissioner, may erect not more than 2 signs with a surface area not to exceed 50 square feet per sign; and

Sec. 4. 23 MRSA §1913-A, sub-§2, ¶E, as amended by PL 1991, c. 387, §1, is repealed.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Currently it is a Class E crime to display political signs on state-owned or state-leased property except for on highway property and property used by a political party. This bill extends that prohibition to highways and to property owned or leased by political subdivisions. It repeals or amends related provisions regulating placement of signs on state-owned highway property.