

# 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)



# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1996

---

Legislative Document

No. 1867

S.P. 756

In Senate, March 19, 1996

**An Act to Establish a Review Process for Certification of Political  
Petitions.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

---

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.  
Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LAWRENCE of York.

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

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

6 **SUBCHAPTER IV**

8 **REVIEW OF CERTIFICATION OF PETITION SIGNATURES**

10 **§41. Review of certification of petition signatures**

12 1. Request. After a petition that is circulated in  
14 accordance with this Title is filed with and reviewed by the  
16 Secretary of State, the circulator has 21 days to request that  
the Secretary of State return names to the registrar or  
registrars of the appropriate municipality or municipalities for  
review of the certification of names appearing on the petition.

18 2. Review by registrar or registrars. A registrar who is  
20 requested to review the certification of petition signatures  
pursuant to subsection 1 has 14 days from the date the Secretary  
22 of State returns the names to complete the review.

24 Upon completion of the review, the registrar of the municipality  
shall certify those names that are valid.

26 3. Review by Secretary of State. When presented with a  
28 petition that contains signatures that have been reviewed by a  
registrar or registrars in accordance with this section, the  
30 Secretary of State shall review it and determine whether the  
32 petition contains the required number of certified names.  
Notwithstanding any other provision of this Title, if a review of  
34 certification is requested under subsection 1, the deadline for  
filing challenges or appeals runs from the date the Secretary of  
State makes a determination on the reviewed signatures.

36 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

38 **This bill provides that, whenever a petition is circulated**  
40 **and filed with the Secretary of State in accordance with the laws**  
42 **governing elections, the circulator may request that the**  
**Secretary of State return names to the registrar or registrars of**  
44 **the appropriate municipality or municipalities for a review of**  
**the certification of names appearing on the petition.**