

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MINDORITY
LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 216, L.D. 280, Bill, "An Act Regarding Opening Hours of Voting Places"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Mandate preamble. This measure requires one or more local units of government to expand or modify activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues but does not provide funding for at least 90% of those expenditures. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 21, two thirds of all of the members elected to each House have determined it necessary to enact this measure.

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

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §626, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Opening hours; presidential and gubernatorial elections. For presidential and gubernatorial elections, voting places must be open for voting no later than 8:00 a.m. on election day.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

'FISCAL NOTE

The requirement that a voting place be open no later than 8:00 a.m. for voting for presidential and gubernatorial elections represents a state mandate pursuant to the Constitution of Maine. The additional local costs for those municipalities which

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2 currently do not open the polls on or before 8:00 a.m. can not be
determined at this time. Pursuant to the Mandate Preamble, the
4 2/3 vote of all members elected to each House exempts the State
from the constitutional requirement to fund 90% of the additional
local costs.'

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SUMMARY

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This amendment adds a mandate preamble, moves the new
language to a more appropriate section of law and adds a fiscal
note.

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