

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
R. 018

L.D. 381

DATE: May 2, 1997

(Filing No. S-181)

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Reported by: Majority

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
118TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 102, L.D. 381, Bill, "An Act to Restrict Circulators of Initiated Petitions from Being within 250 Feet of Voting Places"

Amend the bill by inserting after the enacting clause and before section 1 the following:

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §662, sub-§4, as amended by PL 1995, c. 459, §57, is further amended to read:

4. Collection of signatures. The warden may select and designate a specific location at the voting place, accessible and observable by the voters, where the collection of signatures not prohibited by law may take place. Persons collecting signatures at the polls may make arrangements with the clerk prior to election day and with the warden on election day. The warden may limit the number of persons collecting signatures to one for each specific question, candidate or issue. Persons collecting signatures may not solicit a voter's signature until the voter has completed voting. The warden may direct the removal, under subsection 2, paragraph A, of any person collecting signatures who does not comply with the requirements of this subsection.'

Further amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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FISCAL NOTE

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6 This bill may increase prosecutions for Class E crimes. If
8 a jail sentence is imposed, the additional costs to the counties
10 are estimated to be \$83.78 per day per prisoner. These costs are
not reimbursed by the State. The number of prosecutions that may
result in a jail sentence and the resulting costs to the county
jail system are expected to be insignificant.

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14 The additional workload and administrative costs associated
with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system
can be absorbed within the budgeted resources of the Judicial
Department. The collection of additional fines may increase
16 General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

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SUMMARY

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22 This amendment amends a section of law relating to the
powers and duties of an election warden with regard to signature
collectors to clarify that it relates only to the collection of
24 signatures not prohibited by law. It also adds a fiscal note to
the bill.