MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1446

H.P. 1029

House of Representatives, March 11, 1997

An Act to Require That Campaign Finance Reports Be Considered Filed on the Date They Are Postmarked.

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

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GOODWIN of Pembroke. Cosponsored by Representatives: BAGLEY of Machias, DRISCOLL of Calais, LEMKE of Westbrook, SAMSON of Jay.

	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
2	be it enacted by the reopic of the State of Manie as follows.
4	Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1020-A, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 483, §15, is amended to read:
6	4. Basis for penalties. The penalty for late filing of a report required under this subchapter is a percentage of the total contributions or expenditures for the filing period, whichever is greater, multiplied by the number of calendar days
10	late, as follows:
12	A. For the first violation, 1%;
14	B. For the 2nd violation, 3%; and
16	C. For the 3rd and subsequent violations, 5%.
18	Any penalty of less than \$5 is waived.
20	Violations accumulate on reports with filing deadlines in a 2-year period that begins on January 1st of each even-numbered
22	year. Waiver of a penalty does not nullify the finding of a violation.
24	A report required to be filed under this subchapter that is seat
26	by-certified-or-registered-United-States-mail-and postmarked at least-2-days-before no later than the day of the deadline is not
28	subject to penalty.
30	A registration or report may be provisionally filed by transmission of a facsimile copy of the duly executed report to
32	the commission, as long as an original of the same report is received by the commission within 5 calendar days thereafter.
34	

36 SUMMARY

This bill permits campaign finance report filings to occur without penalty if the reports are postmarked no later than the day of the filing deadline.