

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1042

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LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 798, L.D. 1042, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Election Laws"

Amend the bill in section 4 in subsection 5 in the 4th line from the end (page 2, line 3 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "period" the following: 'and the registrar is not satisfied as to the person's qualification as a voter'

Further amend the bill in section 29 in that part designated "§601." in subsection 2 by inserting at the end the following:

'I. For ballots that are double sided, each side of the ballot must include a clearly printed message at the bottom of the ballot reminding the voter to mark both sides of the ballot.'

Further amend the bill in section 39 in subsection 2 in paragraph F in the 2nd line (page 13, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "and the reason the vote is invalid"

Further amend the bill in section 39 in subsection 2 in paragraph F in the 3rd line from the end (page 13, line 22 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "and shall" the following: 'sign it and'

Further amend the bill in section 40 in subsection 3 in paragraph B in the 2nd line from the end (page 13, line 39 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "and shall" the following: 'sign it and'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 53 (page 17, lines 30 to 43 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 'Sec. 53. 21-A MRSA §753-B, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1999, c.
645, §6, is amended to read:

4
6 **4. Duplicate application.** If the clerk receives a
duplicate application or request from a person from whom the
8 clerk has received a return envelope apparently containing a
statewide absentee ballot, the clerk may not furnish another
10 statewide absentee ballot for that person. The clerk may issue a
2nd statewide absentee ballot to an applicant if the applicant
12 requests one ~~in-person-or-in-writing~~ by an acceptable method
outlined in this subchapter and:

14 A. The applicant states good cause, including, but not
limited to, loss of, spoiling of or damage to the first
16 absentee ballot; or

18 B. An absentee ballot for the applicant that was furnished
to a designated 3rd person is not returned to the clerk's
20 office within the time ~~limits~~ limit provided in subsection
3. If a ballot for an applicant is not returned to the
22 clerk within ~~2-days-of-notification~~ that time limit, the
clerk shall mail or hand deliver a ballot to that applicant
24 ~~on-the-3rd-day-after-notification~~ and may not issue another
ballot to the applicant except for good cause as provided in
26 this subsection. This paragraph does not affect the time
for delivery of absentee ballots under section 755.'

28 Further amend the bill in section 56 in subsection 5 in the
30 4th and 5th lines (page 18, lines 45 and 46 in L.D.) by striking
out the following: "~~and-the-list-required-by-subsection-4,~~" and
32 inserting in its place the following: 'and the list required by
~~subsectien-4-~~ section 753-B, subsection 6,'

34 Further amend the bill in section 57 by striking out all of
36 subsection 1 (page 19, lines 11 to 14 in L.D.) and inserting in
its place the following:

38 '**1. Envelopes retained.** The clerk shall retain possession
40 of return absentee envelopes with the applications attached,
where required, and the list required by section 756 753-B,
42 ~~subsection -4-~~ 6.'

44 Further amend the bill in section 60 in subsection 6 in the
3rd line (page 19, line 32 in L.D.) by striking out the
46 following: "or ballot cards" and inserting in its place the
following: '~~ex-ballot-cards~~'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 64 (page 20, lines 8 to 18 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 64. 21-A MRSA §848, as amended by PL 2001, c. 84, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§848. Ballot format for electronic tabulating systems

The Secretary of State shall furnish all ballot materials for all elections conducted under this Title. Ballots furnished for use with electronic tabulating systems must be arranged as nearly as practicable in accordance with the requirements for candidate ballots under section 601 and for referendum ballots under section 906. For ballots that are double sided, each side of the ballot must include a clearly printed message at the bottom of the ballot reminding the voter to mark both sides of the ballot.'

SUMMARY

This amendment makes nonsubstantive, clarifying changes to the original bill.