

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1337

H.P. 1000

House of Representatives, March 5, 2001

An Act to Hold Petition Circulators to the Same Standards as Political Candidates.

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

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative LaVERDIERE of Wilton. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)
Cosponsored by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln and
Representatives: CARR of Lincoln, ESTES of Kittery, ETNIER of Harpswell, MAYO of
Bath, O'NEIL of Saco, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, Senators: KNEELAND of Aroostook,
PENDLETON of Cumberland.

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

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

6 **4. Collection of signatures.** The warden may select and
designate a specific location not prohibited by section 682,
8 subsection 4 at the voting place, accessible and observable by
the voters, where the collection of signatures may take place.
10 Persons collecting signatures at the polls may make arrangements
with the clerk prior to election day and with the warden on
12 election day. The warden may limit the number of persons
collecting signatures to one for each specific question,
14 candidate or issue. Persons collecting signatures may not
solicit a voter's signature until the voter has completed
16 voting. The warden may direct the removal, under subsection 2,
paragraph A, of any person collecting signatures who does not
18 comply with the requirements of this subsection.

20 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §682, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

22 **4. Circulating petitions prohibited.** A person may not
circulate a direct initiative petition within 250 feet of the
24 entrance to the voting place or within the voting place.

26 **SUMMARY**

28 This bill prohibits the circulator of a direct initiative
30 petition from presenting any such petition and requesting voter
signatures in the voting place or within 250 feet of the entrance
32 to the voting place.