

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1529

H.P. 1132

House of Representatives, March 8, 2001

An Act to Improve Elections.

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

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative SCHNEIDER of Durham.
Cosponsored by Senator TURNER of Cumberland and
Representative BRUNO of Raymond, Senator: DAVIS of Piscataquis.

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

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §112, sub-§7, as amended by PL 1993, c. 695, §3, is further amended to read:

7. Armed forces personnel, students, institutional patients, Indians. A person does not gain or lose a residence solely because of the person's presence or absence while employed in the Armed Forces of the United States or of this State, ~~while a student in any institution of learning,~~ while kept in any institution at public expense or while residing upon any Indian or military reservations. ~~This subsection may not be construed to prevent a student at any institution of learning from qualifying as a voter in the municipality where the student resides while attending that institution.~~

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §112, sub-§§16 and 17 are enacted to read:

16. Student. The residence of a student in any institution of learning does not include the municipality where the student resides while attending that institution unless that student had resided in that municipality prior to attending that institution. A student in any institution of learning may apply to register to vote in any municipality where that student has previously established a fixed and principal home to which that student intends to return.

17. Proper identification required if residency established by affidavit. A person who establishes residence by affidavit shall show adequate proof of identification, as determined by the registrar, to the registrar when that person registers to vote.

Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §505, sub-§7, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 459, §34, is amended to read:

7. Return of votes cast. Report the return of votes cast to the Secretary of State; and

Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §505, sub-§7-A is enacted to read:

7-A. Training. Attend a training session that is approved by the Secretary of State at least once every 2 years in regard to the conduct of elections; and

SUMMARY

This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing elections.

2 1. It provides that a student does not gain residency in
the municipality in which that student's school is located,
4 unless that student resided there prior to attending that school.

6 2. It requires a person who establishes residence by
affidavit to show adequate proof of identification to the
8 registrar when that person registers to vote.

10 3. It requires each municipal clerk to attend a training
session at least once every 2 years in regard to the conduct of
12 elections.