

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2002

Legislative Document

No. 2063

H.P. 1561

House of Representatives, January 11, 2002

An Act to Require Timely Consideration of Appeals of Decisions of the Registrar of Voters.

(AFTER DEADLINE)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach.

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

2

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §103, sub-§6, as amended by PL 1999, c. 426,
4 §5, is further amended to read:

6 **6. Hours; election day meeting; decision.** Upon receipt of
8 a complaint by a person aggrieved by the decision of the
10 registrar, the chair of the registration appeals board shall
12 immediately fix a time and place for the board to meet for a
14 prompt hearing. After hearing, the board may affirm, modify or
16 reverse the decision of the registrar of voters. On the day that
18 a vote is being held in a city or town subject to the provisions
20 of this section, the board shall meet prior to the closing of the
22 polls to consider any complaints that have arisen from a decision
24 of the registrar. The board shall convene at a time sufficient
26 to allow an aggrieved person to vote if the board modifies or
28 reverses the decision of the registrar. The aggrieved person may
appeal the decision of the board to the Superior Court in
accordance with Rule 80B of the Rules of Civil Procedure.

22 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill requires the registration appeals board in a town
26 or city of 5,000 or more residents to convene on election day
28 prior to the closing of the polls to consider any appeals that
have arisen from decisions of the registrar of voters. The board
must meet in time to allow an aggrieved person to vote if the
decision of the registrar is modified or reversed.