

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 121

S.P. 44

In Senate, January 21, 2003

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Push Polling

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.

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

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1014-B, sub-§1, ¶D, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 416, §1, is amended to read:

D. The survey prefaces a question regarding support for a candidate on the basis of an untrue statement; and or

SUMMARY

Under current law, a "push poll" is defined as a paid telephone survey that references a candidate when all of the following factors are present: a list is used to select respondents based on demographic or political characteristics; the survey fails to make inquiries that would allow for the tabulation of results based on a relevant subset of the population; the pollster does not collect or tabulate survey results; the survey prefaces a question regarding support for a candidate on the basis of an untrue statement; and the survey is primarily for the purpose of suppressing or changing the voting position of the call recipient. This bill instead defines a "push poll" as a paid telephone survey that references a candidate when any one of those factors is present.