

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 899

S.P. 294

In Senate, February 20, 2003

An Act To Provide an Alternative to Filing Nomination Petitions

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 SAVAGE of Knox. (BY REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Representative PARADIS of Frenchville.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA c. 5, sub-c. 2** is amended by repealing the
subchapter headnote and enacting the following in its place:

6 **SUBCHAPTER 2**

8 **BY PETITION AND PAYMENT OF FEE**

10 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §351, first ¶**, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161,
12 §6, is amended to read:

14 The nomination of a candidate, other than by a party, for
any federal, state or county office must be made by petition, as
16 provided in this subchapter, or, in the case of a nomination of a
candidate for State Senator or State Representative, by payment
of a nomination fee as provided in section 354-A.

18 **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §354-A** is enacted to read:

20 **§354-A. Optional method of nomination by payment**

22 A candidate for State Senator or State Representative may
24 obtain a nomination by paying a fee of \$250 to the Secretary of
State. All fees collected under this section must be deposited
26 in the Maine Clean Election Fund established in section 1124.

28 **Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §355, first ¶**, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161,
30 §6, is amended to read:

32 The written consent of each candidate must be filed with his
the candidate's nomination petition or with the candidate's
34 nomination fee as described in section 354-A.

36 **Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §1124, sub-§2, ¶¶G and H**, as enacted by IB
1995, c. 1, §17, are amended to read:

38 G. Voluntary donations made directly to the fund; and

40 H. Fines collected under section 1020-A, subsection 4 and
42 section 1127+; and

44 **Sec. 6. 21-A MRSA §1124, sub-§2, ¶I** is enacted to read:

46 I. Nomination fees collected under section 354-A.

SUMMARY

2

4 This bill allows candidates for State Senator and State
6 Representative to obtain a nomination by paying a \$250 fee
instead of by filing a nomination petition. The bill requires
the nomination fees to be deposited in the Maine Clean Election
Fund.