

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

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Legislative Document

No. 1272

H.P. 944

House of Representatives, March 11, 2003

**An Act To Specify the Political Party of Contributors of Qualifying Contributions and To Require a Candidate Funded under the Maine Clean Election Act To Receive a Certain Level of Support in Order To Receive Public Funding in the Future**

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative PERRY of Bangor.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: DUNLAP of Old Town, THOMAS of Orono, Senators:  
DAVIS of Piscataquis, GAGNON of Kennebec, SAWYER of Penobscot.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§3,** as amended by PL 2001, c.  
465, §4, is further amended to read:

6 **3. Qualifying contributions.** Participating candidates must  
obtain qualifying contributions during the qualifying period as  
8 follows:

10 A. For a gubernatorial candidate, at least 2,500 verified  
registered voters of this State who are enrolled in the  
12 candidate's political party must support the candidacy by  
providing a qualifying contribution to that candidate;

14 B. For a candidate for the State Senate, at least 150  
verified registered voters from the candidate's electoral  
16 division who are enrolled in the candidate's political party  
must support the candidacy by providing a qualifying  
18 contribution to that candidate; ~~or~~

20 C. For a candidate for the State House of Representatives,  
at least 50 verified registered voters from the candidate's  
22 electoral division who are enrolled in the candidate's  
24 political party must support the candidacy by providing a  
qualifying contribution to that candidate; ~~or~~

26 D. For a candidate who is not enrolled in a qualified  
28 political party, at least 5,000 qualifying contributions  
must be raised for a gubernatorial candidate, 300 for a  
30 State Senate candidate and 100 for a State House of  
Representatives candidate.

32 A payment, gift or anything of value may not be given in exchange  
34 for a qualifying contribution. A candidate may pay the fee for a  
money order in the amount of \$5, which is a qualifying  
36 contribution, as long as the donor making the qualifying  
contribution pays the \$5 amount reflected on the money order.  
38 Any money order fees paid by a participating candidate must be  
paid for with seed money and reported in accordance with  
40 commission rules.

42 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§15** is enacted to read:

44 **15. Certain prior candidates ineligible.** Notwithstanding  
any other provision of this chapter, a candidate is ineligible to  
46 receive revenues from the fund if:

48 A. That candidate received revenues from the fund in a  
prior election;

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