

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

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Legislative Document

No. 1349

H.P. 991

House of Representatives, March 13, 2003

### An Act Concerning Recognition of Qualified Political Parties

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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 EDER of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ADAMS of Portland, CUMMINGS of Portland, HUTTON of Bowdoinham, MILLS of Cornville, Senators: DOUGLASS of Androscoggin, EDMONDS of Cumberland, LEMONT of York, TURNER of Cumberland.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §301, sub-§1, ¶B,** as amended by PL 1999, c.  
450, §1, is further amended to read:

6 B. The party held a state convention as prescribed by  
8 Article ~~III~~ 3 during the election year in which the  
designation was listed on the ballot and any interim  
election year; and

10 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §301, sub-§1, ¶C,** as amended by PL 1999, c.  
12 450, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

14 C. Either:

16 (1) Its candidate for Governor or for President polled  
18 at least 5% of the total vote cast in the State for  
Governor or President in either of the 2 preceding  
20 general elections; or

22 (2) The party has maintained enrollment of members  
equal to or greater than 0.5% of all registered voters  
24 in the State according to the most current tabulation  
of registered voters performed by the Secretary of  
26 State.

28 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill allows a recognized political party to maintain  
its qualified status by either receiving 5% of the ballots cast  
32 for Governor or President in either of the 2 preceding general  
elections or maintaining an enrollment of members equal to 0.5%  
34 of all registered voters in the State.