

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M.
R.S.

L.D. 1196

DATE: 3-29-05

(Filing No. H-84)

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
122ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "C" to S.P. 413, L.D. 1196, Bill, "An Act To Extend Civil Rights Protections to All People Regardless of Sexual Orientation"

Amend the bill by inserting after section 22 the following:

Sec. 23. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at statewide election; form of question; effective date. This Act must be submitted to the legal voters of the State at a statewide election held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

"Do you favor ratifying the action of the 122nd Legislature whereby it passed an act extending to all citizens regardless of their sexual orientation the same basic protection against discrimination now guaranteed to citizens on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodation, credit and education?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of the Act, the Governor shall proclaim that

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48 fact without delay, and the Act takes effect 30 days after the
50 date of the proclamation.

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52 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each
54 city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this
Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.'

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SUMMARY

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This amendment adds a referendum section that requires
approval by the voters before the law can go into effect.

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SPONSORED BY: *Jean Bryant-Deschenes*
(Representative BRYANT-DESCHENES)

66

TOWN: Turner

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1196

LR 2263(19)

An Act To Extend Civil Rights Protections to All People Regardless of Sexual Orientation

Fiscal Note for House Amendment " "

Sponsor: Rep. Bryant-Deschenes

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Referendum Costs	Month/Year	Election Type	Question	Length
	Nov-05	General	Referendum	Standard

The Secretary of State's budget includes sufficient funds to accommodate one ballot of average length for the general election in November. If the number or size of the referendum questions increases the ballot length, an additional appropriation of \$8,000 or more may be required.