

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 732

H.P. 553

House of Representatives, February 13, 2007

An Act To Improve the Candidate Nomination and Replacement Process

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FLETCHER of Winslow.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §374-A, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 310, §24, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **1. Withdrawal and replacement of nominees.** The Secretary of State shall declare
5 the vacancy as provided in section 362-A and a political committee may make a
6 replacement nomination following a candidate's withdrawal only if a person who has filed
7 a primary petition under section 335 or nominated for an office, other than United States
8 Senator, Representative to Congress or Governor, at a primary election or by a political
9 committee:

10 A. Withdraws on or before 5 p.m. of the 2nd Monday in July preceding the general
11 election;

12 B. Withdraws because of a catastrophic illness that has permanently and
13 continuously incapacitated the candidate and would prevent performance of the
14 duties of the office sought, provided the candidate or a member of the candidate's
15 immediate family files with the Secretary of State a certificate accompanying the
16 withdrawal request, which describes the illness and is signed by at least 2 licensed
17 physicians; or

18 C. Dies prior to the general election.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill allows a person who has filed a primary petition to be a candidate for state
21 or county office by the March 15th deadline but then withdraws from the race to be
22 replaced by the fourth Monday in July.