

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

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Legislative Document

No. 1871

H.P. 1304

House of Representatives, April 24, 2007

**Resolve, Authorizing Municipalities To Consolidate Voting Districts  
for a Special Election**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CROCKETT of Augusta.  
Cosponsored by Senator PERRY of Penobscot and  
Representatives: BRAUTIGAM of Falmouth, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor, PATRICK of  
Rumford, SILSBY of Augusta, Senators: MITCHELL of Kennebec, ROSEN of Hancock.

1 **Emergency preamble.** **Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not  
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** it is possible that a special election for bond issues may be called before  
4 the expiration of that 90-day period; and

5 **Whereas,** voter turnout is often low for a special election; and

6 **Whereas,** it is costly for municipalities to staff all voting places during an election;  
7 and

8 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within  
9 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as  
10 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
11 therefore, be it

12 **Sec. 1. Municipalities authorized to consolidate voting districts.**

13 **Resolved:** That, notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, section 631, a  
14 municipality may consolidate voting districts for the purpose of holding a special election  
15 on bond issues in 2007. A municipality that chooses to consolidate voting districts shall  
16 hold a public hearing on the planned consolidation. Plans to consolidate districts must be  
17 submitted to the Secretary of State at least 35 days prior to the special election.

18 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation  
19 takes effect when approved.

## 20 SUMMARY

21 This resolve authorizes municipalities to consolidate voting districts for the purpose  
22 of holding a special election on bond issues in June of 2007.