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## 124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 28

H.P. 23

House of Representatives, January 5, 2009

An Act To Promote the Integrity of Citizens' Initiatives

(EMERGENCY)

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

Millicent M. Mac Jarland MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk

Presented by Representative BRYANT of Windham. Cosponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford and Representatives: ADAMS of Portland, CASAVANT of Biddeford, CORNELL du HOUX of Brunswick, FLAHERTY of Scarborough, PENDLETON of Scarborough, PETERSON of Rumford, WHEELER of Kittery, Senator: GERZOFSKY of Cumberland.

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

Whereas, it is imperative that this legislation take effect immediately so that it will be in place if a citizens' initiative is filed to be put on the ballot for the next election; and

5 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 6 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as 7 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, 8 therefore,

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

10 Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §901, sub-§8 is enacted to read:

8. Person gathering signatures. A person who gathers signatures for a people's
veto referendum or the direct initiative of legislation must be a voter registered in the
State.

14 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this 15 legislation takes effect when approved.

## SUMMARY

This bill requires that a person who collects signatures for a citizens' initiative must be a voter registered in Maine.

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