

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



STATE LAW LIBRARY
AUGUSTA, MAINE

124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 948

H.P. 651

House of Representatives, March 10, 2009

An Act To Reduce the Cost of the Maine Clean Election Act

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative VAN WIE of New Gloucester.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BEAUDETTE of Biddeford, GILES of Belfast, TRINWARD of Waterville.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1122, sub-§7, ¶A,** as amended by PL 2007, c. 443, Pt. B,
3 §2, is further amended to read:

4 A. ~~Of~~ From \$5 to \$10 in the form of a check or a money order payable to the fund,
5 signed by the contributor and made in support of a candidate;

6 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§3,** as amended by PL 2007, c. 571, §11, is
7 further amended to read:

8 **3. Qualifying contributions.** Participating candidates must obtain qualifying
9 contributions during the qualifying period as follows:

10 A. For a gubernatorial candidate, at least 3,250 verified registered voters of this State
11 must support the candidacy by providing a qualifying contribution to that candidate
12 and at least \$32,500 in qualifying contributions;

13 B. For a candidate for the State Senate, at least 150 verified registered voters from
14 the candidate's electoral division must support the candidacy by providing a
15 qualifying contribution to that candidate and at least \$1,500 in qualifying
16 contributions; or

17 C. For a candidate for the State House of Representatives, at least 50 verified
18 registered voters from the candidate's electoral division must support the candidacy
19 by providing a qualifying contribution to that candidate and at least \$500 in
20 qualifying contributions.

21 A payment, gift or anything of value may not be given in exchange for a qualifying
22 contribution. A candidate may pay the fee for a money order that is a qualifying
23 contribution in the amount ~~of~~ from \$5 to \$10 as long as the donor making the qualifying
24 contribution pays the \$5 to \$10 amount reflected on the money order. Any money order
25 fees paid by a participating candidate must be paid for with seed money and reported in
26 accordance with commission rules. A money order must be signed by the contributor to
27 be a valid qualifying contribution. The commission may establish by routine technical
28 rule, adopted in accordance with Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, a procedure for a
29 qualifying contribution to be made by a credit or debit transaction and by electronic funds
30 transfer over the Internet. Records containing information provided by individuals who
31 have made qualifying contributions over the Internet are confidential, except for the name
32 of the individual making the contribution, the date of the contribution, the individual's
33 residential address and the name and office sought of the candidate in whose support the
34 contribution was made.

35 It is a violation of this chapter for a participating candidate or an agent of the participating
36 candidate to misrepresent the purpose of soliciting qualifying contributions and obtaining
37 the contributor's signed acknowledgement.

38 **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§7-A,** as amended by PL 2007, c. 443, Pt. B, §6,
39 is further amended to read:

