

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 1/25/17

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE RULES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.O. 16, Order, "House Order, To Amend House Rules Concerning Absence Due to Major Illness or Injury"

Amend the House Order in the first Ordered paragraph in the first 2 lines by striking out the following: "adding a new subsection 14" and inserting the following: 'amending subsection 12'

Amend the House Order by striking out all of subsection 14 and inserting the following:

'12. Voting. A member who is in the House when a question is put shall vote, unless the presiding officer for reasons excuses that member. When yeas and nays are ordered, a member may not leave the member's seat until the vote is declared. A call for yeas and nays must close no more than 30 minutes after a roll call is commenced. In all elections by the House, or on joint ballot of the Chambers, a member may not leave the member's seat after voting, before a return of the House is had. A member may not vote on any question before the House when that question immediately involves that member's private right as distinct from the public interest. With approval from the Speaker upon as prompt notice as possible from the member, a member is excused from house deliberations and roll calls for a debilitating or incapacitating major illness or injury; the member must contact the Speaker and Clerk upon return.

SUMMARY

This amendment strikes the proposed change to House Rule 401 that requires the Clerk in calculating a member's voting percentage to disregard absences due to major illness and injury and replaces it with language added to House Rule 401, subsection 12 allowing the Speaker to excuse a member from House deliberations and roll calls for a debilitating or incapacitating major illness or injury.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT