

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 78

H.P. 65

House of Representatives, January 11, 2017

### **An Act To Permit Unenrolled Voters To Cast Ballots in Primary Elections**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative ACKLEY of Monmouth.  
Cosponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec and  
Representative: CASÁS of Rockport.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §111, sub-§5**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 387, §1, is  
3 repealed.

4 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §340**, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 423, §3, is repealed.

5 **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §341** is enacted to read:

6 **§341. Unenrolled voter participation in primary elections allowed**

7 A registered voter not enrolled in a political party may participate, subject to the  
8 restrictions of section 144, in a party's primary election without enrolling in that political  
9 party. An unenrolled voter may vote in only one party's primary election. Municipal  
10 clerks shall establish procedures to ensure that each voter voting in a party's primary  
11 election is offered a ballot for that primary election.

12 **Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §431, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 474, §4, is repealed.

13 **Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §431, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

14 **3. Unenrolled voter participation in primary elections allowed.** A registered  
15 voter not enrolled in a political party may participate, subject to the restrictions of section  
16 144, in a party's presidential primary election without enrolling in that political party. An  
17 unenrolled voter may vote in only one party's presidential primary election. Municipal  
18 clerks shall establish procedures to ensure that each voter voting in a party's presidential  
19 primary election is offered a ballot for that presidential primary election.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill allows an unenrolled voter to vote in a primary election without having to  
22 enroll in a political party. An unenrolled voter may vote in only one party's primary  
23 election.