

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1033

S.P. 340

In Senate, March 14, 2017

An Act To Eliminate the 24-hour Reporting Requirement under the Election Laws

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MASON of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative LUCHINI of Ellsworth and
Senators: COLLINS of York, DIAMOND of Cumberland, Representatives: CASÁS of
Rockport, DILLINGHAM of Oxford, FARRIN of Norridgewock, HANINGTON of Lincoln,
HICKMAN of Winthrop.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1017, sub-§2, ¶D**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 334, §10, is
3 repealed.

4 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1017, sub-§3-A, ¶C**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 334, §11,
5 is repealed.

6 **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §1017-A, sub-§4-A, ¶E**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 334,
7 §12, is repealed.

8 **Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §1017-A, sub-§4-B, ¶C**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 334,
9 §13, is repealed.

10 **Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §1020-A, sub-§5-A, ¶¶A and B**, as amended by IB 2015,
11 c. 1, §8, are further amended to read:

12 A. Five thousand dollars for reports required under section 1017, subsection 2,
13 paragraph B, C, ~~D~~, E or H; section 1017, subsection 3-A, paragraph B, ~~C~~, D, D-1 or
14 F; and section 1017, subsection 4, except that if the financial activity reported late
15 exceeds \$50,000, the maximum penalty is 100% of the amount reported late;

16 B. Five thousand dollars for state party committee reports required under section
17 1017-A, subsection 4-A, paragraphs A, B, and C ~~and E~~, except that if the financial
18 activity reported late exceeds \$50,000, the maximum penalty is 100% of the amount
19 reported late;

20 **Sec. 6. 21-A MRSA §1020-A, sub-§9**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 483, §15, is
21 amended to read:

22 **9. List of late-filing candidates.** The commission shall prepare a list of the names
23 of candidates who are late in filing a report required under section 1017, subsection 2,
24 paragraph C ~~or D~~ or section 1017, subsection 3-A, paragraph B ~~or C~~ within 30 days of the
25 date of the election and shall make that list available for public inspection.

26 **Sec. 7. 21-A MRSA §1059, sub-§2, ¶E**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 334, §28, is
27 repealed.

28 **SUMMARY**

29 This bill removes the requirement for political candidates, party committees and
30 political action committees to report to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and
31 Election Practices within 24 hours of receiving certain contributions or making certain
32 expenditures after the 14th day before an election.