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Legislative Document

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H.P. 619

House of Representatives, February 14, 2019

An Act To Secure the Integrity of Elections When the Secretary of State Is a Candidate

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

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative FECTEAU of Biddeford.

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

2 Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §610 is enacted to read:

3 §610. Secretary of State as candidate

11

If the Secretary of State is a candidate in an election under the Secretary of State's
jurisdiction, upon declaration of candidacy or by performing any substantive act to
become a candidate, the Secretary of State may not oversee any part of that election and
the first deputy secretary of state shall assume all responsibilities of the Secretary of State
for that election under this Title. Upon assumption of the responsibilities under this
section, the first deputy secretary of state shall take the oath of office required of the
elected Secretary of State under Title 5, section 81.

SUMMARY

12 This bill prohibits the Secretary of State from overseeing an election in which the 13 Secretary of State is a candidate and transfers all responsibilities of the Secretary of State 14 for that election to the first deputy secretary of state.