

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 405

H.P. 289

House of Representatives, February 10, 2021

An Act To Prevent Fraudulent Endorsements in Political Materials

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 8, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MADIGAN of Waterville.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1014-C** is enacted to read:

3 **§1014-C. Unauthorized endorsements prohibited**

4 A person may not, in order to promote that person's success or the success of another
5 person as a candidate for nomination or election to any public office or in connection with
6 any question submitted to the voters, include or cause to be included in any political
7 advertisement, circular, poster or publication the name of any person as an endorser or
8 supporter or any statement that gives the appearance of that endorsement or support except
9 with the express written consent of that person. A person who violates this section may be
10 assessed a fine as determined by the commission by rule. Rules adopted pursuant to this
11 section are routine technical rules as described in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

12 **SUMMARY**

13 This bill provides that a person may not, in order to promote that person's success or
14 the success of another person as a candidate for nomination or election to any public office
15 or in connection with any question submitted to the voters, include or cause to be included
16 in any political advertisement, circular, poster or publication the name of any person as an
17 endorser or supporter or any statement that gives the appearance of that endorsement or
18 support except with the express written consent of that person.