

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 6-8-21

REPORT A

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 130TH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 804, L.D. 1126, "An Act To Update the Voter Registration Process"

Amend the bill by striking out all of the first line after the enacting clause (page 1, line 2 in L.D.).

Amend the bill in Part A in section 4 in subsection 1 in the last 2 lines (page 2, lines 10 and 11 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "available on the Secretary of State's publicly accessible website"

Amend the bill in Part A in section 6 in the first indented paragraph in the last 2 lines (page 2, lines 26 and 27 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "through the Secretary of State's publicly accessible website"

Amend the bill in Part A in section 7 in the first indented paragraph in the 3rd and 4th lines (page 2, lines 32 and 33 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "through the Secretary of State's publicly accessible website"

Amend the bill in Part A in section 8 in subsection 1 in the 4th and 5th lines (page 2, lines 40 and 41 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "through the Secretary of State's publicly accessible website"

Amend the bill in Part A in section 9 in the first indented paragraph in the 2nd and 3rd lines (page 3, lines 4 and 5 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "on the Secretary of State's publicly accessible website"

Amend the bill in Part A by inserting after section 9 the following:

'Sec. A-10. 21-A MRSA §145, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2001, c. 310, §9, is further amended to read:

2. Reenrollment after withdrawal. A voter may not enroll in a different party but may enroll in the same party within 15 days after ~~filing a written request for withdrawal~~ withdrawing from a party under this section.

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- 1 Amend the bill in Part A in section 10 in subsection 1 in the 4th line (page 3, line 13 in
- 2 L.D.) by striking out the following: "through the Secretary of State's publicly accessible
- 3 website"

- 4 Amend the bill in Part A in section 10 in subsection 1 in paragraph K in the 2nd and
- 5 3rd lines (page 3, lines 28 and 29 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "through the
- 6 Secretary of State's publicly accessible website"

- 7 Amend the bill in Part A by striking out all of section 12 and inserting the following:
- 8 **'Sec. A-12. 21-A MRSA §152, sub-§6** is enacted to read:
- 9 **6. Design of online voter registration application; rulemaking.** The Secretary of
- 10 State shall design the online voter registration application that meets the requirements of
- 11 subsection 1 and that can be submitted online through the Secretary of State's publicly
- 12 accessible website. The online registration application must be designed to prevent an
- 13 applicant from registering to vote unless the applicant discloses a current, valid Maine
- 14 driver's license number or nondriver identification number or the last 4 digits of the
- 15 applicant's social security number.

- 16 The Secretary of State shall adopt rules governing the online voter registration process,
- 17 which must, at a minimum, include the following:

- 18 A. A process for informing an applicant who discloses a current, valid Maine driver's
- 19 license number or nondriver identification card number that disclosure of that number
- 20 constitutes consent to the use of the applicant's signature on the driver's license or
- 21 nondriver identification card for all purposes for which a signature on a written
- 22 application for voter registration is used under this Title;

- 23 B. A process for an applicant who discloses the last 4 digits of the applicant's social
- 24 security number to include with the online voter registration application an electronic
- 25 image of the applicant's signature and for the applicant to consent to the use of that
- 26 electronic image of the applicant's signature for all purposes for which a signature on
- 27 a written application for voter registration is used under this Title;

- 28 C. A process for transmitting any driver's license number or nondriver identification
- 29 card number from an online voter registration application along with the applicant's
- 30 name and date of birth to the central voter registration system and for determining
- 31 whether the information entered in the central voter registration system matches the
- 32 information in the driver's license or nondriver identification card records maintained
- 33 by the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles and, if a match
- 34 is found, for transmitting an electronic image of the applicant's signature on that driver's
- 35 license or nondriver identification card from the bureau to the central voter registration
- 36 system;

- 37 D. A process for matching the last 4 digits of a social security number provided in an
- 38 online voter registration application and the applicant's name and date of birth with the
- 39 information available from the United States Social Security Administration;

- 40 E. A process for transmitting the contents of each online voter registration application
- 41 and the electronic image of the signature of that applicant to the appropriate registrar
- 42 of voters;

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F. Minimum procedures and security measures for ensuring the accuracy and security of online voter registration applications;

G. A process and form for a registered voter whose name is changed by marriage or other process of law or who has moved within a municipality to notify the appropriate registrar of voters pursuant to section 129 of the registered voter's new name or address through the online voter registration application; and

H. A process and form for a registered voter to enroll in a party pursuant to section 142, to change the voter's party enrollment pursuant to section 144 or to withdraw from a party pursuant to section 145 through the online voter registration application.

Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. A-13. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF
Bureau of Administrative Services and Corporations 0692**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for contracted programming costs to implement online voter registration.

GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$0	\$259,000
	\$0	\$259,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL		

Amend the bill in Part A in section 13 in the first line (page 5, line 21 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "Part takes effect January" and inserting the following: 'Act takes effect November'

Amend the bill by striking out all of Part B.

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, changes the date on which online voter registration applications must be accepted to November 1, 2023. The amendment eliminates the requirement that the Secretary of State study the feasibility of implementing a system for 3rd-party organizations to collect and to submit electronic voter registration applications to the Secretary of State. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



Approved: 05/11/21 *MAC*

130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1126

LR 13(02)

An Act To Update the Voter Registration Process

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *(A.C.H.-461)*

Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$259,000	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$259,000	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$259,000 in fiscal year 2022-23 to the Department of Secretary of State for contracted programming costs to implement online voter registration.