

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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3/25/22
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Date: 3/25/22

L.D. 1821
(Filing No. H-840)

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VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1354, L.D. 1821, "An Act To Make Interfering with an Election Official a Class C Crime"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Protect Public Election Officials'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §751, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1997, c. 351, §2, is further amended to read:

2. This section does not apply to:

- A. Refusal by a person to submit to an arrest or detention; ~~or~~
- B. Escape by a person from official custody, as defined in section 755; or
- C. Intentional interference by a person under Title 21-A, section 674, subsection 2, paragraph E.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1, sub-§34, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended to read:

34. Public official. "Public official" means a person elected or appointed to serve the people, including but not limited to an election official, municipal clerk or registrar.

Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §101, sub-§9, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 415, §1 and affected by §5, is amended to read:

9. Training. The registrar ~~must~~ shall attend a training session that is approved by the Secretary of State at least once every 2 years in regard to the conduct of voter registration. The training must include, but is not limited to, training on the de-escalation of conflicts and the process for reporting threats to or harassment of public officials related to the conduct of federal, state or municipal elections to the Secretary of State.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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election matters. Finally, the amendment requires the Secretary of State to incorporate de-escalation training and information on how to report election-related threats to and harassment of public officials to the Secretary of State in the training provided to municipal clerks and registrars of voters.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1821

LR 2346(02)

An Act To Make Interfering with an Election Official a Class C Crime

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-840)
Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund
Minor revenue increase - General Fund

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

The additional workload associated with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system does not require additional funding at this time. The collection of additional fines may increase General Fund or other dedicated revenue by minor amounts.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Secretary of State associated with maintaining a record of threats and annually reporting the numbers and types can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.