

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 2/29/24 Report 'C' L.D. 1578 (Filing No. H-793)

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 1023, L.D. 1578, "An Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1.

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 5.

Amend the bill in section 6 in subsection 7 in paragraph C in the 2nd line (page 2, line 11 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "candidate"

Amend the bill in section 8 in §803 in subsection 2 in paragraph A in the 3rd line (page 3, line 1 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "containing" the following: "the names of the electors and"

Amend the bill in section 8 in §803 in subsection 2 by striking out all of paragraph B (page 3, lines 7 to 12 in L.D.).

Amend the bill in section 8 in §803 in subsection 2 by relettering the paragraphs to read alphabetically.

Amend the bill in section 11 in c. 17 in sub-c. 1 in §1301 in the first indented paragraph in the first 2 lines (page 4, lines 2 and 3 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "the National Popular Vote for President Act." and inserting the following: "the National Popular Vote for President Act."

Amend the bill by inserting after section 12 the following:

**'Sec. 13. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at statewide election; form of question; effective date.** This Act must be submitted to the legal voters of the State at a statewide election held in the month of November following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 "Do you favor adopting the Interstate Compact: Agreement Among the  
 2 States to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote,  
 3 under which all of a participating state's electoral votes are awarded to the  
 4 presidential slate that receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and  
 5 the District of Columbia, except that the compact takes effect only when  
 6 the number of electoral votes held by the participating states equals a  
 7 majority of the overall total number of electoral votes, which is at least 270  
 8 of the 538 total electoral votes?"

9 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question  
 10 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square  
 11 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared  
 12 in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in  
 13 the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the  
 14 returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Act, the Governor shall  
 15 proclaim the result without delay and this Act becomes effective 30 days after the date of  
 16 the proclamation.

17 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all  
 18 ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this  
 19 referendum.'

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

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This amendment removes provisions of the bill related to batch elimination, which  
 24 were repealed in Public Law 2023, chapter 304, and makes an additional technical  
 25 correction. It also removes the provision of the bill requiring the Governor to send a  
 26 separate certificate of determination of the electors containing the names of the electors to  
 27 the Archivist of the United States under state seal and instead requires only the one  
 28 certificate of determination, which must contain the names of the electors and the statewide  
 29 number of votes for each presidential slate that received votes in the final round of the  
 30 presidential vote counting process, to be sent. The amendment also adds a referendum  
 31 provision in order to send this Act to the voters of the State for acceptance or rejection at a  
 32 statewide election held in the month of November following the passage of this Act.

33 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

34 (See attached)



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1578

LR 183(03)

An Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *B (H-793)*

Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

## Fiscal Note

Potential current biennium cost increase - General Fund

### Referendum Costs

Month/Year	Election Type	Question	Length
Nov-24	General	Referendum	Standard

The Secretary of State's budget includes sufficient funds to accommodate one ballot of average length for the general election in November. If the number or size of the referendum questions requires production and delivery of a second ballot, an additional appropriation of \$266,000 may be required.