

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1111**

S. P. 408

In Senate, February 25, 1953

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary, sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Chapman of Cumberland

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-THREE

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**AN ACT Clarifying the Law Relating to Registration of Voters.**

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 3, § 2, amended.** The 1st sentence of section 2 of chapter 3 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows :

‘Every citizen who had the right to vote on the 4th day of January, 1893 and every citizen, excepting paupers, persons under guardianship, and Indians not taxed, who, not being prevented by physical disability from so doing, is able to read the constitution of the state in the English language in such manner as to show that he is neither prompted nor reciting from memory, and to write his name, and who is 21 years of age or upwards, and shall have his residence established in this state for the term of 6 months **and in the city, town or plantation in which he is a resident for 3 months** next preceding any national, state, city, or town election shall have the right to vote at every such election in the city, town, or plantation where his residence is so established; and such right to vote at national and state elections in such city, town, or plantation shall continue for a period of 3 months after his removal therefrom, if he continues to reside in this state during that period; provided, however, that his name has been properly entered upon the voting list of such city, town, or plantation.’

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 3, § 20, amended.** The 1st sentence of section 20 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Every applicant for registration shall be required, unless prevented by physical disability from so doing, or unless he had the right to vote on the 4th day of January, 1893, to read in the English language, other than the title, from an official edition of the constitution of the state in such manner as to show that he is neither prompted nor reciting from memory, so much as may be necessary to demonstrate his ability to read the constitution, and to write his name in a book **or on cards provided** ~~kept~~ for that purpose.'

**Sec. 3. R. S., c. 3, § 22, amended.** Section 22 of chapter 3 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new sentence to read as follows:

**'When citizenship is derived from some other person, the board shall have authority to require satisfactory evidence of such citizenship.'**