

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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CHAPTER 5

VOTING LIST AND GENERAL REGISTER

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SUBCHAPTER I

VOTING LISTS

Sec.
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§ 171. Powers and duties of registrar

The registrar has the exclusive power to prepare and revise the voting list.

1. List prepared. He shall prepare a printed or typewritten list, alphabetically by surname, of all the voters of the municipality. In a municipality which has voting districts, he shall make a separate list for each district, and shall add the street address of each voter beside his name.

2. List current. He shall keep the list current at all times by adding the names of new voters and by removing the names of those who have died, moved from the municipality more than 3 months previously with an apparent intention of abandoning their residence therein, or become disqualified to vote.

1963, c. 78, § 4.

3. List of deceased voters. The clerk shall, upon request of the registrar, furnish the registrar with a list of deceased voters.

1963, c. 78, § 5.

4. Proof of qualification shall be requested. If the registrar is in doubt as to the qualifications of any voter, he shall request his appearance at a reasonable time and place to offer proof. If he fails to appear, the registrar shall remove his name from

the voting list and send him a notice in accordance with section 172.

5. **Record of names added and removed.** He shall keep a record of the names added to or removed from the voting list, and the date when the action was taken.

1961, c. 360, § 1; 1963, c. 78, §§ 4, 5.

§ 172. **Notice of removal from list**

The registrar shall send a notice, with a self-addressed postal card enclosed, by first-class mail to the last known place of residence of each living person whose name has been removed from the voting list.

1. **Content of notice.** The notice shall contain the following message:

Dear Sir:

This is to advise you that your name has been removed from the voting list of (name of municipality) for the following reason: (Here state reason for removal). Your failure to reply within 30 days will be deemed to indicate your agreement with this action.

(Name of registrar)

Registrar of voters

(Name of Municipality)

2. **Content of reply.** The postal card shall contain the following message:

Dear Sir:

I respectfully request that my name be replaced on the voting list of (name of municipality) for the following reason: (Here allow space for reason to be stated). I swear that the reason stated above is true.

Signature

Address

3. **Replacement on list.** If the registrar is satisfied from the reply that the name should be replaced on the voting list, he shall do so. If not, he shall notify the person within a reasonable time that the reason given appears to be insufficient and that his name has not been replaced on the voting list.

1961, c. 360, § 1.

§ 173. Declaration of rights; appeal

If the registrar removes a name from the voting list or refuses to place it on the voting list, the interested person may petition the Superior Court or the District Court for a declaratory judgment under Title 14, chapter 707, naming the registrar as defendant. The District Court is expressly granted the same powers and jurisdiction as the Superior Court has under said Title 14, chapter 707, in petitions arising out of this section.

1. Early hearing. On receipt of the petition, the court shall set the matter for hearing at the earliest reasonable time.

2. Appeal. If any person is aggrieved by the decision of a registrar of voters, he may appeal in writing to the municipal officers of a municipality by filing a complaint therefor. The municipal officers shall forthwith fix a time and place for immediate hearing. After hearing, the municipal officers may affirm, modify or reverse the decision of the registrar of voters. Appeal by such aggrieved person from the decision of the municipal officers to the District Court may be taken in accordance with the rules of civil procedure. (1963, c. 355.)

1961, c. 360, § 1; 1963, c. 78, § 6; c. 355.

§ 174. Enrollment records

The registrar shall record enrollments by adding the party designation of the voter beside his name on the voting list.

1. Records current. He shall keep the records current at all times by adding new enrollments, and by changing or withdrawing the enrollments of those who have requested it.

2. Record of names added and removed. He shall keep a record of the enrollments added, changed or withdrawn and the date when the action was taken.

1961, c. 360, § 1.

§ 175. Copies of list available

The registrar shall furnish a certified copy of the voting list to any person within 10 days after request and payment at the rate of 75¢ per 100 names, if the list is not available in printed form. If the list is available in printed form, it shall be furnished by the registrar at a price determined by the municipal officers, which accrues to the municipality.

1961, c. 360, § 1.

SUBCHAPTER II

GENERAL REGISTER OF VOTERS

Sec.

201. Preparation and contents.

§ 201. Preparation and contents

The registrar shall prepare and keep a general register of voters.

1. Content of general register. The general register must contain the following information concerning each person on the voting list on index cards filed alphabetically by surname:

- A.** First name, middle name or initial, and surname.
- B.** Street address.
- C.** Date of registration.
- D.** Date of enrollment.
- E.** Party in which enrolled.
- F.** Date of birth.
- G.** Place of birth.
- H.** Duration of residence in the municipality at the time of registration.
- I.** Place where last registered.
- J.** Marital status, name of spouse and date of marriage.
- K.** Place of residence of spouse.
- L.** Whether a citizen by birth or naturalization. If by naturalization, the date, place and court of naturalization and the date on which the registrar inspected the certificate or certified copy of the court record of naturalization.
- M.** Remarks concerning registration or enrollment.

2. Reference file. When the name of a voter is removed from the voting list, the registrar shall remove his card from the general register and retain it in a reference file for 10 years.

1961, c. 360, § 1.