



MATTHEW DUNLAP  
SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE  
OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**RULING OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE:**

**ON THE CHALLENGE BROUGHT BY DAVID FLOOD OF BIDDEFORD  
AGAINST THE PRIMARY PETITIONS FILED ON BEHALF OF  
JOANNE TWOMEY, A DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR STATE  
SENATOR IN DISTRICT 32**

1. On March 28, 2016, a public hearing was held for the purpose of hearing evidence relating to the allegations presented in the challenge made by David Flood of Biddeford against the primary petitions filed on behalf of Joanne Twomey, a Democratic candidate for State Senator in District 32.
2. The challenge was filed in the Office of the Secretary of State, Division of Elections, on March 22, 2016, and contained the following allegations:
  - a. The signatures of Estelle Morissette, Robert Thibodeau and Rachel Thibodeau on the candidate's petition forms have no dates;
  - b. Perry Aberle is a signatory and also the circulator of the same petition;
  - c. The signatures of Louis Hebert, Rita Roberge and Ronald Labonte on the candidate's petition forms do not list a city;
  - d. There is no complete Primary Candidate's Consent and Certification of Enrollment sheet for Ms. Twomey.
3. I have reviewed the Report of the Hearing Officer dated March 30, 2016, and the exhibits presented at the hearing.
4. For the reasons outlined in the Hearing Officer's report, attached hereto, I find that the challenger has not met his burden of providing sufficient evidence, pursuant to Title 21-A, section 337, subsection 2, paragraph B, to invalidate the petition or any names on the petition. I further find that the challenge to the petition is not valid, and that the petition and consent for the nomination of Joanne Twomey, as a candidate in the Democratic Primary Election for Senate District 32, meets the requirements of Title 21-A, section 335.
5. This decision may be appealed by commencing an action in the Superior Court within 5 days, pursuant to 21-A M.R.S.A. section 337, subsection 2, paragraph D.

Dated: April 4, 2016



Matthew Dunlap  
Secretary of State