

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

Senate Legislative Record
One Hundred and Twenty-Second Legislature

State of Maine

Daily Edition

Second Regular Session
January 4, 2006 to May 24, 2006

Pages 1382 - 2139

Pagination:

**Due to an error in numbering,
the pagination of the
printed Daily Edition skips
from S-1766 to S-1777. No
material is missing.**

**The bracketed page numbers
have been added to indicate
the page numbers used in
the Senate's interim online edition.**

Mandate

An Act To Amend the Election Laws

H.P. 1329 L.D. 1889
(C "A" H-866; H "A" H-888)

Tabled - April 3, 2006, by Senator **MARTIN** of Aroostook

Pending - **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence

(In Senate, March 29, 2006, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-866) AND HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-888).**)

(In House, March 31, 2006, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED.**)

This being a Mandate, in accordance with the provisions of Section 21 of Article IX of the Constitution, having received the affirmative vote of 34 Members of the Senate, with no Senators having voted in the negative, and 34 being more than two-thirds of the entire elected Membership of the Senate, was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for his approval.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later (4/03/06) Assigned matter:

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Clarify Deadlines for Submitting Direct Initiatives to Municipal Officials for Signature Verification

S.P. 782 L.D. 2033
(C "A" S-513)

Tabled - April 3, 2006, by Senator **GAGNON** of Kennebec

Pending - **FURTHER CONSIDERATION**

(In Senate, March 27, 2006, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-513).**)

(In House, March 31, 2006, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-513) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-895)** thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**)

On motion by Senator **PLOWMAN** of Penobscot, the Senate **RECEDED** from whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-513).**

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECEDED** from whereby it **ADOPTED COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-513).**

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-544) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-513) **READ.**

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Plowman.

Senator **PLOWMAN:** Thank you, Madame President, men and women of the Senate. This was a divided report out of our committee, needing a 2/3 vote to send this out for a Constitutional amendment. We proceeded to work on some language that would be acceptable to the committee. This language has been agreed upon and I'm offering it as the person who took out the minority report. I believe this clears up some of the contention part of the issue. What this bill actually does is guarantees our clerks a suitable amount of time to certify citizens' petitions. The amendment continues to keep the burden upon the clerks to return the petitions to the petitioners. As we have talked in the last two years, that was some comments by clerks that people never return to pick up their petitions. The reading of the Constitution during our committee debate showed that it has always been the duty of the clerk to return the petitions if they were not picked up. There was a move to make this no longer the duty of the clerks and we have come to the conclusion that it should remain the duty of the clerks in order to make sure the petitions do get back in a timely fashion. It was contentious. I think we've agreed and have got some language that will help that. I hope that you will support this amendment and the bill as it flows through. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Gagnon.

Senator **GAGNON:** Thank you, Madame President, men and women of the Senate. I would concur with my colleague. The major thrust of this bill was not the issue that the good Senator is trying to deal with. I appreciate her getting on board the report and I heartily endorse this amendment. Thank you.

Senate at Ease.

Senate called to order by the President.

On motion by Senator **PLOWMAN** of Penobscot, Senate Amendment "A" (S-544) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-513) **ADOPTED.**

House Amendment "A" (H-895) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-513) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-513) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-895) and Senate Amendment "A" (S-544) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-513) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-895) AND SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-544) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later (1/31/06) Assigned matter: