Legislative Document	No. 980
H.P. 693	House of Representatives, March 9, 2017

An Act To Improve Absentee Balloting

Reference to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

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ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative PIERCE of Falmouth.
Cosponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland and
Representatives: DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, DENNO of Cumberland, FULLER of Lewiston, MOONEN of Portland, O'NEIL of Saco, TIPPING of Orono.

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

2   **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §753-B, sub-§6, ¶A,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 457, §3, is
3   further amended to read:

4   A. The list of absentee voters must include each voter's name, residence address,
5   voting district and party affiliation; the date and manner by which the ballot was
6   requested, issued and received; and a notation of whether the application and the
7   ballot were accepted or rejected. For an application that was rejected, the list must
8   include the reasons for such rejection. The clerk must also indicate on the list when
9   the absentee voter is a uniformed service voter, overseas voter or township voter. By
10   the time that all absentee ballots have been processed on election day, the clerk must
11   update the central voter registration system or annotate the printed list of absentee
12   voters to reflect all ballots that were received by the close of the polls on election day,
13   including a notation of whether the ballots were accepted or rejected and the reasons
14   for such rejections. This list, reflecting all absentee ballots received by the close of
15   the polls, must be made available for public inspection. Any absentee voter certified
16   as a participant in the Address Confidentiality Program pursuant to Title 5, section
17   90-B must be listed by the voter code assigned to that individual under the program
18   instead of by the voter's name and reflect the Address Confidentiality Program
19   address assigned to the voter. The list of absentee voters must be sorted so that the
20   program participants appear at the end of the list and must be printed on a separate
21   page of the list. The portion of the list of absentee voters relating to Address
22   Confidentiality Program participants must be kept under seal and excluded from
23   public inspection.

24   **SUMMARY**

25   This bill requires that the list of requests for absentee ballots that a clerk is required to
26   create and maintain include, in the case of a request that is rejected, the reasons for the
27   rejection.