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Date: (Filing No. H-)

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 131, L.D. 156, “RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Concerning Early Voting and Voting by Absentee Ballot”

Amend the resolution by striking out all of section 4 (page 1, lines 5 to 15 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'Section 4. Time of state election; absentee ballot; early voting. The election of Senators and Representatives shall be on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November biennially forever and the election of Governor shall be on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November every 4 years. The Legislature by proper enactment shall authorize a process of early voting that allows voting to occur in the same manner as on election day during a period immediately preceding an election. The Legislature ~~under~~ by proper enactment shall authorize and provide for voting by absentee ballot by citizens of the State absent therefrom in the Armed Forces of the United States or of this State and for voting by absentee ballot by other citizens ~~absent or physically incapacitated~~ for reasons deemed sufficient.'

Amend the resolution by striking all of the question (page 1, lines 23 to 27 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

' "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to direct the Legislature to adopt a process of early voting?" '

SUMMARY

This amendment eliminates the language in the resolution that requires the Legislature to authorize early voting by voters within or outside their places of residence

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 and instead directs the Legislature to authorize a process of early voting that allows
2 voting to occur in the same manner as on election day during a period immediately
3 preceding an election.

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

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(See attached)