An Act To Give Municipalities More Options in Municipal Elections

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §2528, sub-§10, as amended by PL 1997, c. 733, §1, is further amended to read:

10. Election by plurality vote; tie vote. Unless otherwise provided for at a municipal meeting held at least 180 days before the election, the provisions of this subsection apply. Election must be by plurality vote. In the case of a tie vote, the meeting must be adjourned to a day certain, when ballots are again cast for the candidates tied for the office in question, unless all but one tied candidate withdraw from a subsequent election by delivering written notice of withdrawal signed by the candidate and notarized to the municipal offices within the 7-day period following the election. After the 7-day period has expired, the municipal officers shall call a run-off election between the remaining candidates by posting a warrant in the manner required for calling a town meeting. If only one candidate remains, that candidate is declared the winner and sworn into office.

If the meeting is adjourned sine die before a tie vote is resolved or the tie vote is discovered after the meeting adjourns sine die and more than one candidate remains, a new meeting must be called to conduct a run-off election by the method described in this subsection.