1                                                                                          L.D. 769

2        Date:                                                                    (Filing No. H-        )

3                               **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

4             Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

5                                        **STATE OF MAINE**

6                               **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

7                                      **126TH LEGISLATURE**

8                                   **FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

9             COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "      " to H.P. 520, L.D. 769, Bill, "An Act To Create
10       Fairness in Political Party Enrollment Deadlines"

11            Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the
12       summary and inserting the following:

13            '**Sec. 1.  21-A MRSA §144, sub-§3,** as amended by PL 1995, c. 459, §16, is
14       further amended to read:

15            **3. Restrictions during change of enrollment.** Except as provided in subsection 4, a
16       voter may not vote at a caucus, convention or primary election for 15 days after filing an
17       application to change enrollment.  ~~A~~ Notwithstanding subsection 4, a voter must file an
18       application to change enrollment prior to January 1st to be eligible to file a petition as a
19       candidate in that election year.

20            **Sec. 2.  21-A MRSA §144, sub-§4,** as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended
21       to read:

22            **4. Change of residence.** When a voter changes ~~his~~ residence from one municipality
23       to another and establishes a new voting residence there, ~~he~~ that voter may enroll in any
24       party and vote at a caucus, convention or primary election, ~~or file a petition as a candidate~~
25       ~~for nomination by primary election,~~ regardless of ~~his~~ that voter's previous enrollment.'

26                                           **SUMMARY**

27            This amendment replaces the bill.  Current law requires a voter to have changed
28       enrollment before January 1st in order to be eligible to file a petition as a candidate for
29       nomination by primary election in that election year, except that a voter who changes
30       residence from one municipality to another is waived from this requirement.  The
31       amendment removes this waiver.

                                   *COMMITTEE AMENDMENT*