



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 718

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H.P. 457

House of Representatives, February 25, 2025

**An Act to Require Municipal Clerks to Issue Absentee Ballots Only  
to Residents of That Municipality and to Eliminate Ongoing  
Absentee Voter Status**

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Received by the Clerk of the House on February 20, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative ADAMS of Lebanon.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §753-A, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 273, §13, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 **3. Request in writing.** A voter may complete an application or make a written request  
5 for the voter's own ballot by mail, in person or by facsimile. The voter may designate an  
6 immediate family member or a 3rd person, if that immediate family member or 3rd person  
7 is registered to vote in that municipality, to deliver the ballot on the voter's behalf. An  
8 immediate family member of a voter may also make an application or written request for  
9 an absentee ballot for the voter.

10 A. An application or a written request for an absentee ballot must be accepted by the  
11 clerk if it contains the following information:

- 12 (1) The voter's name and date of birth;
- 13 (2) The voter's residence address or other address sufficient to identify the voter;
- 14 (3) The signature of the voter or the voter's immediate family member who is  
15 making the application or written request. If an immediate family member is either  
16 making the application or written request or is designated in the application or  
17 written request to deliver or return the ballot to the voter, then the family  
18 relationship to the voter must also be provided; and
- 19 (4) If applicable, a different address to which the applicant requests the ballot be  
20 sent or delivered.

21 B. If the voter needs assistance pursuant to subsection 5, then in addition to the  
22 information required in paragraph A, the following information must be provided in  
23 order for the application or written request to be accepted by the clerk:

- 24 (1) The printed name and signature of the person who helped the voter; and
- 25 (2) A statement that the aide helped the voter by either reading or signing the  
26 application, or both.

27 C. If the voter wishes to have the ballot delivered or returned by a 3rd person who is  
28 registered to vote in that municipality, then in addition to the information required in  
29 paragraph A, the following information must be provided in order for the application  
30 or written request to be accepted by the clerk:

- 31 (1) The name of the 3rd person whom the voter has designated. A 3rd person may  
32 ~~only~~ be designated only in an application or written request that is signed by the  
33 voter.

34 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §753-A, sub-§8**, as amended by PL 2023, c. 304, Pt. A, §24  
35 and affected by §§37 and 39 and amended by c. 404, §1 and affected by §2, is repealed.

36 **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §753-A, sub-§9**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 398, Pt. UUUU,  
37 §4 and affected by PL 2023, c. 304, Pt. A, §37, is repealed.

38 **Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §753-B, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 398, Pt. UUUU,  
39 §5 and affected by PL 2023, c. 304, Pt. A, §37, is further amended to read:

