



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 34

S.P. 26

In Senate, December 30, 2022

**An Act to Require a Person to Show Photographic Identification for
the Purpose of Voting**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner and
Senator: TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §671, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 371, §20, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **1. Name announced.** A voter who wishes to vote must present proof of identity in
5 the form of a photograph identification document and state the voter's name and residence
6 address to an election clerk, who shall announce the name in a loud, clear voice. If the
7 voter's stated residence address is different from the residence address listed on the
8 incoming voting list, the voter must be directed to complete an updated voter registration
9 application before voting. For purposes of this section, "photograph identification
10 document" means a current and valid driver's license or nondriver identification card issued
11 in this State, a United States passport, a military identification or a permit to carry a
12 concealed handgun issued under Title 25, chapter 252 if that permit includes a photograph.
13 "Photograph identification document" does not include an identification issued by a college
14 or university in this State.

15 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §671, sub-§9** is enacted to read:

16 **9. Special voter photograph identification card.** Notwithstanding subsection 1, a
17 voter who wishes to vote and who does not possess a photograph identification document
18 may request from the Secretary of State a special voter photograph identification card,
19 which must be issued free of charge and is valid for voter identification under this section.
20 The Secretary of State shall establish procedures through rulemaking for the issuance of
21 special voter photograph identification cards under this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant
22 to this subsection are routine technical rules under Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

23 **Sec. 3. Effective date.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2024.

24 SUMMARY

25 This bill requires the presentation of proof of identity in the form of a photograph
26 identification document when voting in person. Acceptable forms of photograph
27 identification are a current and valid driver's license or nondriver identification card issued
28 in this State, a United States passport, a military identification or a permit to carry a
29 concealed handgun issued in this State if that permit includes a photograph. An
30 identification issued by a college or university in this State may not be accepted for voter
31 identification. The bill also allows a person who does not possess a photograph
32 identification document to request a free special voter photograph identification card from
33 the Secretary of State.