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Date: (Filing No. H-)

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 850, L.D. 1336, “An Act to Increase Transparency in Municipal Ballot Referenda Expenditures”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §1053-A in the first indented paragraph in the 8th and 9th lines (page 1, lines 12 and 13 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "municipal clerk as required by Title 30-A, section 2502, subsection 2" and inserting the following: 'commission using the electronic filing system pursuant to section 1059, subsection 5'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §1053-A in the first indented paragraph in the 16th line (page 1, line 20 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "campaigns" the following: 'in towns or cities with a population of 15,000 or more'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §2502, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2011, c. 389, §60 and affected by §62, is further amended to read:

2. Municipal referenda campaigns. ~~Municipal referenda campaigns in towns or cities with a population of 15,000 or more are campaign finance reporting is governed by Title 21-A, chapter 13, subchapter 4. The registrations and reports of political action committees and ballot question committees must be filed with the municipal clerk. A town or city with a population of less than 15,000 may choose to be governed by Title 21-A, chapter 13, subchapter 4 by vote of its legislative body at least 90 days before a referendum election. A town or city that votes to adopt those provisions may revoke that decision, but it must do so at least 90 days before an election subject to that subchapter.'~~

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, changes with whom a political action committee or a ballot question committee must register and file reports in municipalities with less than 15,000 residents from the municipal clerk to the Commission

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 of Governmental Ethics and Election Practices established under the Maine Revised
2 Statutes, Title 1, section 1002. The filing will be through the commission's electronic filing
3 system. It also adds the responsibility of overseeing the filing of registrations or campaign
4 finance reports related to municipal referenda campaigns for municipalities of that size to
5 the commission. The amendment removes the ability of a municipality with fewer than
6 15,000 residents to choose whether to be governed by Title 21-A, chapter 13, which
7 governs campaign reports and finances.

8 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

9 **(See attached)**