



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 112

H.P. 78

House of Representatives, January 13, 2021

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**An Act To Facilitate the Timely and Accurate Counting of Absentee  
Ballots By Extending the Processing Period**

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Received by the Clerk of the House on January 13, 2021. 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 ROBERTS of South Berwick.  
Cosponsored by Senator LUCHINI of Hancock and  
Representatives: DUNPHY of Old Town, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, McCREIGHT of  
Harpwell, MEYER of Eliot, PIERCE of Falmouth, Senator: LAWRENCE of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §760-B, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 371, §37, is further  
3 amended to read:

4 Any municipality or jurisdiction that conducts its own elections may opt to process  
5 absentee ballots beginning on the ~~4th~~ 7th day immediately prior to election day. The clerk  
6 shall use the following procedure when processing the absentee ballots during this time.

7 **SUMMARY**

8 Current law allows a municipality or jurisdiction that conducts its own elections to  
9 process absentee ballots beginning on the 4th day immediately prior to election day. This  
10 bill allows a municipality or jurisdiction to process absentee ballots beginning on the 7th  
11 day immediately prior to election day.