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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
130TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 790, L.D. 1061, “An Act To Protect Minor Political Parties That Seek Official Party Status”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act To Protect Minor Political Parties That Seek To Retain Qualified Party Status'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §301, sub-§1, ¶E,** as amended by PL 2017, c. 254, §1, is further amended to read:

E. At The party's candidate for Governor or for President received at least 5% of the total votes cast in the State for Governor or for President in the last preceding gubernatorial or presidential election or at least 10,000 voters were enrolled in the party voted in as of the last general election, except that a qualified party does not have to meet this enrollment the requirements of this paragraph until the 2nd general election after it has qualified and thereafter.'

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, strikes and replaces the bill. The amendment changes the requirements for a qualified political party to retain its qualified status. Under current law, beginning with the 2nd general election after a party qualifies, a party retains its qualification if at least 10,000 voters enrolled in the party voted in the last general election. Under the amendment, beginning with the 2nd general election after the party qualifies, a party retains its qualification if either 10,000 voters were enrolled in the party on the date of the last general election or if the party's gubernatorial or

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 presidential candidate received at least 5% of the total votes cast in the State in the last  
2 preceding gubernatorial or presidential election.