

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

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

‘**Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1, sub-§27-C**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2017, c. 316, §1, is amended to read:

**27-C. Elections determined by ranked-choice voting.** "Elections determined by ranked-choice voting" means any of the following elections in which 3 or more candidates have qualified to be listed on the ballot for a particular office or at least 2 such candidates plus one or more declared write-in candidates have qualified for that particular office:

A. Primary elections for the offices of United States Senator, United States Representative to Congress, Governor, State Senator and State Representative;

B. General and special elections for the offices of United States Senator and United States Representative to Congress; and

D. General elections for presidential electors; and

**Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1, sub-§27-C, ¶E** is enacted to read:

E. Primary elections for the office of President of the United States.

**Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §723-A, sub-§5-B** is enacted to read:

**5-B. Presidential primary elections; selection of delegates.** Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, selection and allocation of delegates to a party's national presidential nominating convention must be in accordance with any reasonable procedures established at the state party convention.

**Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §801, sub-§2** is enacted to read:

**2. Counting of ballots.** Counting of ballots for candidates for President must proceed according to the ranked-choice method of counting votes described in section 723-A.

**Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §805, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended to read:

**2. Presidential electors.** The presidential electors at large shall cast their ballots for the presidential and vice-presidential candidates who received the largest number of votes in the State according to the ranked-choice method of counting votes described in section 723-A. The presidential electors of each congressional district shall cast their ballots for the presidential and vice-presidential candidates who received the largest number of votes in each respective congressional district according to the ranked-choice method of counting votes described in section 723-A.

**Sec. 6. Contingent effective date.** Those sections of this Act that enact the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, section 1, subsection 27-C, paragraph E and Title 21-A, section 723-A, subsection 5-B take effect upon the enactment of laws adopting a presidential primary election in this State.’

## **SUMMARY**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, strikes and replaces the bill. Under the amendment, general elections for presidential electors must be determined by ranked-choice voting. The amendment further provides that, if a law establishing a presidential primary election is enacted in the State, primary elections for the office of President of the United States must be determined by ranked-choice voting.