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Date: (Filing No. H-)

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 231, L.D. 298, Bill, “An Act To Limit Agency Expenditures To Influence Elections”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §59 in subsection 1 in paragraph A in the last 2 lines (page 1, lines 7 and 8 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "or within a political subdivision of the State"

Amend the bill in section 1 in §59 in subsection 2 in the first line (page 1, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "Notwithstanding any other law, an" and inserting the following: 'An'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §59 in subsection 3 in paragraph A in the 3rd line (page 1, line 26 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "referendum if the summary contains" and inserting the following: 'referendum that does not expressly advocate the support or opposition of the ballot measure. The summary must contain'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §59 in subsection 3 in paragraph A in the next to the last line (page 1, line 29 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "does" and inserting the following: 'may'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §59 in subsection 3 in paragraph C in subparagraph (1) in the first 2 lines (page 1, lines 35 and 36 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "or a political subdivision of the State"

Amend the bill in section 1 in §59 in subsection 3 in paragraph C in subparagraph (3) in the first 2 lines (page 2, lines 1 and 2 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "or of the executive head of the governing body of a political subdivision of the State"

Amend the bill in section 1 in §59 in subsection 3 in paragraph C in subparagraph (4) in the 2nd and 3rd lines (page 2, lines 5 and 6 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "or of the executive head of the governing body of a political subdivision of the State or of that person's family"

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, removes the provisions of the bill that prohibit political subdivisions in the State from expending public resources to influence the outcome of a direct initiative of legislation, a people's veto referendum or other statewide referendum. The amendment clarifies that resources spent by an agency on a factual summary of the issues may not be used to express support or opposition for the ballot measure.