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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1013, L.D. 1568, “An Act to Protect Access to Absentee Ballot Drop Boxes”

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

**'Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §674, sub-§1, ¶B,** as amended by PL 2003, c. 447, §14, is further amended to read:

B. Interferes with a voter attempting to cast a vote, including by knowingly blocking or attempting to block a voter's access to a secured drop box;

**Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §752-B, sub-§3-A** is enacted to read:

**3-A. Access to secured drop box. During the absentee voting period, to the extent possible, a municipality shall ensure that a path to each secured drop box is clear of all barriers.'**

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, replaces the bill. The amendment provides that interfering with a voter attempting to cast a vote, which is a Class E crime, includes knowingly blocking or attempting to block a voter's access to a secured drop box. It also provides that, during the absentee voting period, to the extent possible, a municipality must ensure that a path to each secured drop box is clear of all barriers.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

**(See attached)**

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**