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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**JUDICIARY**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
129TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 397, L.D. 540, Bill, “An Act Regarding Qualifications for District Attorneys”

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of subsection 2 (page 1, lines 5 to 10 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

**2. Qualifications.** Only ~~attorneys admitted to the general practice of law in this~~ an attorney who is a member in good standing of the bar of the State, who has not been suspended from the practice of law in this State or in any other jurisdiction during the previous 10 years and who reside resides in the prosecutorial district may be elected or appointed district attorney. Removal from the prosecutorial district or disbarment or suspension from the practice of law vacates the office. For purposes of this subsection, a person is a "member in good standing of the bar of the State" if that person is admitted to the practice of law in this State, is presently registered with the Board of Overseers of the Bar as an active practitioner and is not currently disbarred or suspended from practice in this State pursuant to Title 4, chapter 17, subchapter 2 or the Maine Bar Rules. If the person has been suspended from practice in this State or any other jurisdiction, the suspension must have ended at least 10 years before the person's election or appointment as district attorney.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

**SUMMARY**

The bill provides for the disqualification of a person to be elected or appointed district attorney if the person has been suspended from the practice of law within the previous 10 years. It also provides that disbarment or suspension during the term of office results in the person vacating the office. This amendment retains these provisions.

This amendment requires a district attorney to be a "member in good standing of the bar of the State," which is consistent with the generally accepted standard of qualification of attorneys for positions. Language from the law governing qualifications for the Attorney General is added to the law governing qualifications for a district attorney to

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 make these provisions consistent. Any suspension must have ended at least 10 years  
2 prior to the attorney's election or appointment as district attorney.