APPROVEDCHAPTERMAY 30, 202543BY GOVERNORRESOLVES

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

H.P. 753 - L.D. 1148

Resolve, Directing the Secretary of State to Study Providing Access to Absentee Ballots for Municipal Elections to Uniformed Service Voters or Overseas Voters in the Same Manner as Absentee Ballots for Statewide Elections

Sec. 1. Department of Secretary of State to study providing access to absentee ballots for municipal elections to uniformed service voters or overseas voters in same manner as absentee ballots for statewide elections. Resolved: That the Department of the Secretary of State shall study the feasibility of and methods for providing digital access to and receipt of local absentee ballots for uniformed service voters or overseas voters from a municipality holding an election on the same date as a statewide election. In conducting this study, the Department of the Secretary of State may consult with members of an association representing town and city clerks.

Sec. 2. Department of Secretary of State to update information provided to uniformed service voters or overseas voters regarding access to and return of local absentee ballots. Resolved: That the Department of the Secretary of State shall update its publicly accessible website or the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act absentee ballot retrieval service portal, as applicable, to include clearly and conspicuously that local absentee ballots must be obtained from the uniformed service voter's or overseas voter's municipality of residence and that the process for applying for, receiving and returning absentee ballots through the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act absentee ballot retrieval service portal applies only to statewide and federal elections. The Secretary of State shall make easily accessible the contact information for each municipality in the State.

Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That, no later than December 3, 2025, the Secretary of State shall submit a report based upon the study in section 1, including an update on the information required under section 2, along with any recommended legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs, which may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.