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Date: (Filing No. S-)

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT “ ” to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “A” to S.P. 323, L.D. 764, “An Act to Ensure That Effective Dates of First Regular Session Direct Initiatives of Legislation Will Occur After the November 2023 Election”

Amend the amendment by striking out the first to 5th indented paragraphs after the substitute title (page 1, lines 15 to 27 in amendment) and inserting the following:

'Amend the bill in the emergency preamble by striking out all of the 3rd, 4th and 5th paragraphs after the title (page 1, lines 7 to 14 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

Whereas, 4 direct initiatives were introduced during the First Special Session of the 131st Legislature; and

Whereas, 3 of those direct initiatives concern participation and the dissemination of ideas in the political process; and

Whereas, unless enacted by the Legislature without change, those direct initiatives will be presented to voters on the general election to be held on November 7, 2023; and

Whereas, participation in the November general election is core political speech protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, the Legislature desires to consider enacting one or more of the direct initiatives without change during the First Special Session of the 131st Legislature without undermining participation in the November general election; and

Whereas, the effective date of any direct initiative enacted during the First Special Session of the 131st Legislature, which is 90 days after adjournment, may occur during the November election cycle, which may result in a change to the election rules in the middle of an election and thereby affect participation in the November general election; and

Whereas, this Act seeks to delay the effective date of any direct initiative enacted during the First Special Session until after the November 2023 election in order to not affect participation in this election, but not to otherwise change the direct initiatives as proposed to the Legislature by the electors; and'

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

SENATE AMENDMENT

