



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 199

H.P. 176

House of Representatives, January 27, 2011

**An Act To Strengthen Maine's Election Laws by Requiring
Photograph Identification for the Purpose of Voting**

Reference to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative CEBRA of Naples.

Cosponsored by Representative COTTA of China, Senator SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin and Representatives: AYOTTE of Caswell, BENNETT of Kennebunk, BICKFORD of Auburn, BLACK of Wilton, BURNS of Whiting, BURNS of Alfred, CELLI of Brewer, CHASE of Wells, CLARK of Easton, CRAFTS of Lisbon, CRAY of Palmyra, CURTIS of Madison, CUSHING of Hampden, DAMON of Bangor, DAVIS of Sangerville, DUNPHY of Embden, EDGECOMB of Caribou, ESPLING of New Gloucester, FITTS of Pittsfield, FITZPATRICK of Houlton, FLOOD of Winthrop, FOSSEL of Alna, FOSTER of Augusta, GIFFORD of Lincoln, GILLWAY of Searsport, GUERIN of Glenburn, HAMPER of Oxford, HARMON of Palermo, HARVELL of Farmington, JOHNSON of Eddington, JOHNSON of Greenville, KESCHL of Belgrade, KNAPP of Gorham, KNIGHT of Livermore Falls, LIBBY of Waterboro, LONG of Sherman, MAKER of Calais, MALABY of Hancock, McCLELLAN of Raymond, McFADDEN of Dennysville, MORISSETTE of Winslow, NASS of Acton, NEWENDYKE of Litchfield, Speaker NUTTING of Oakland, O'CONNOR of Berwick, OLSEN of Phippsburg, PARKER of Veazie, PARRY of Arundel, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, PLUMMER of Windham, PRESCOTT of Topsham, RICHARDSON of Carmel, RICHARDSON of Warren, RIOUX of Winterport, ROSEN of Bucksport, SANDERSON of Chelsea, SARTY of Denmark, SIROCKI of Scarborough, SOCTOMAH of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland, TILTON of Harrington, TIMBERLAKE of Turner, VOLK of Scarborough, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, WEAVER of York, WILLETTE of Mapleton, WILLETTE of Presque Isle, WINSOR of Norway, WOOD of Sabattus, Senators: COLLINS of York, COURTNEY of York, FARNHAM of Penobscot, HASTINGS of Oxford, KATZ of Kennebec, MARTIN of Kennebec, MASON of Androscoggin, PLOWMAN of Penobscot, President RAYE of Washington, THOMAS of Somerset, TRAHAN of Lincoln, WHITTEMORE of Somerset.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §671, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2005, c. 453, §55, is further amended to read:

1. Name announced. A voter who wishes to vote must provide proof of identity with photograph identification documentation approved by the Secretary of State by rule and state the voter's name and, upon request, residence address to an election clerk, who shall announce the name in a loud, clear voice.

Sec. 2. Rules. The Secretary of State shall adopt rules establishing a photograph identification standard for a voter providing proof of identity to an election clerk. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

SUMMARY

This bill requires that a voter provide proof of identity with photograph identification approved by the Secretary of State by rule for the purpose of voting.