

## **127th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 509

H.P. 348

House of Representatives, February 24, 2015

## An Act To Facilitate the Timely Return of Requested Absentee Ballots

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

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative SCHNECK of Bangor. Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and Representatives: BATES of Westbrook, BLUME of York, GOODE of Bangor, KORNFIELD of Bangor, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MELARAGNO of Auburn, SAUCIER of Presque Isle, STANLEY of Medway.

1	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
2	Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §752, sub-§3-A is enacted to read:
3	3-A. Postage costs for ballots returned by mail. Return envelopes for general
4	election absentee ballots provided by the Secretary of State to each municipality must
5	allow for a voter to return the absentee ballot via the United States Postal Service without
6	cost to the voter. The Secretary of State may require municipalities to reimburse the
7	office of the Secretary of State for the costs of postage for those absentee ballots returned
8	to the clerk via the United States Postal Service.
9	SUMMARY
10	This bill requires that the return envelopes for absentee ballots supplied to
11	municipalities by the Secretary of State allow a voter to use the United States Postal

12 Service to return the ballot to the municipal clerk at no cost to the voter.