

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.