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Date: (Filing No. H-)

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 627, L.D. 859, “An Act To Allow Municipalities To Use Ranked-choice Voting in Municipal Elections”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Give Municipalities More Options in Municipal Elections'

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

'Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §2528, sub-§10, as amended by PL 1997, c. 733, §1, is further amended to read:

10. Election by plurality vote; tie vote. Unless otherwise provided for at a municipal meeting held at least 180 days before the annual meeting, the provisions of this subsection apply. Election must be by plurality vote. In the case of a tie vote, the meeting must be adjourned to a day certain, when ballots are again cast for the candidates tied for the office in question, unless all but one tied candidate withdraw from a subsequent election by delivering written notice of withdrawal signed by the candidate and notarized to the municipal offices within the 7-day period following the election. After the 7-day period has expired, the municipal officers shall call a run-off election between the remaining candidates by posting a warrant in the manner required for calling a town meeting. If only one candidate remains, that candidate is declared the winner and sworn into office.

If the meeting is adjourned sine die before a tie vote is resolved or the tie vote is discovered after the meeting adjourns sine die and more than one candidate remains, a new meeting must be called to conduct a run-off election by the method described in this subsection.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, and amends the title. It permits municipalities to adopt a different method

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

- 1 of determining the secret ballot election of town officials or municipal referenda elections
- 2 if done so in a municipal meeting held at least 180 days before the annual meeting.