An Act To Require Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 22, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Presented by Representative JOHANSEN of Monticello.
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 2019, c. 371, §20, is further amended to read:

  1. Name announced. A voter who wishes to vote must present proof of identity in the form of a photograph identification document and state the voter's name and residence address to an election clerk, who shall announce the name in a loud, clear voice. If the voter's stated residence address is different from the residence address listed on the incoming voting list, the voter must be directed to complete an updated voter registration application before voting. For purposes of this subsection, "photograph identification document" means a current and valid driver's license or nondriver identification card issued in this State, a United States passport, a military identification or a permit to carry a concealed handgun issued under Title 25, chapter 252 if that permit includes a photograph. "Photograph identification document" does not include an identification issued by a college or university in this State.

Sec. 2. Effective date. This Act takes effect January 1, 2022.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the presentation of proof of identity in the form of a photograph identification document when voting in person. Acceptable photograph identification is a current and valid driver's license or nondriver identification card issued in this State, a United States passport, a military identification or a permit to carry a concealed handgun issued in this State if that permit includes a photograph. An identification issued by a college or university in this State may not be accepted for voter identification.