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STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1141, L.D. 1536, “An Act Regarding
Municipal Public Hearings on Citizen-initiated Municipal Referenda”

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

'Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §2528, sub-§5, as amended by PL 2003, c. 569, §2, is further
amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

The municipal officers shall hold a public hearing on the subject of the article at least 10
days before the day for voting on the article. The public hearing must be held in a manner
that solicits and allows for a discussion on the merits of the article. At least 7 days before
the date set for the hearing, the municipal officers shall give notice of the public hearing
by having a copy of the proposed article, together with the time and place of hearing, posted
in the same manner required for posting a warrant for a town meeting under section 2523.
The municipal officers shall make a return on the original notice stating the manner of
notice and the time it was given.'

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

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the concept draft. It requires that the public hearing held by
municipal officers on an article initiated by written petition include a discussion on the
merits of the article for which the referendum was initiated.