

An Act To Make Interfering with an Election Official a Class C Crime

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §751, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1997, c. 351, §2, is further amended to read:

2. This section does not apply to:

- A. Refusal by a person to submit to an arrest or detention; or
- B. Escape by a person from official custody, as defined in section 755; or
- C. Intentional interference by a person under Title 21-A, section 674, subsection 3, paragraph E.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §674, sub-§3, ¶C, as amended by PL 2003, c. 447, §20, is further amended to read:

C. Votes by using the name of another; or

Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §674, sub-§3, ¶D, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 447, §21, is amended to read:

D. Attempts to vote by using the name of another; or

Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §674, sub-§3, ¶E is enacted to read:

E. Intentionally interferes by force, violence or intimidation or by any physical act with any public official who is in fact performing or the person believes is performing an official function relating to a federal, state or municipal election.

SUMMARY

This bill provides that a person commits a Class C crime if that person intentionally interferes by force, violence or intimidation or by any physical act with a public official who is in fact performing or the person believes is performing an official function relating to a federal, state or municipal election. Current law provides that a person is guilty of obstructing government administration, which is a Class D crime, if the person intentionally interferes by force, violence or intimidation or by any physical act with a public servant performing or purporting to perform an official function.

I support this Legislation because it happened to myself and my staff for all of the 2020 Election year.

We were threatened, called voter suppressors, murderers and my favorite Nazi's. Myself and my staff and all my other election workers, work very, very hard for months to hold honest elections. The fact that the voters in these cities and towns can get away with this type of behavior is Ludacris and must stop. I do hope that those who get caught doing these acts will be held accountable and made an example of.

The integrity of every election that I oversee is first and foremost my top priority!

Thank you

Karen Estee

Town of Kittery

Karen Estee
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