

**APPENDIX B
ACCESS TO BALLOT VIA PETITION**

Proposed Amendment

Sec. 7.2. ~~Nomination by Caucus. Reserved.~~

~~Nomination of candidates for office shall be determined at the caucus of each political party or by petition. Nomination of candidates for City Council members and School Committee members to represent the respective Wards shall be made in the ward caucus of each political party in each Ward. Nomination of candidates for Mayor and at large City Council members and School Committee members, Ward Clerks and Wardens shall be made by the caucus as a whole. Caucuses for the purpose of nominating candidates shall be held not less than sixty (60) days prior to the day on which a municipal election is to be held. Notice of a caucus for the purpose of nominating candidates for City office shall be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City at least three (3) and not more than seven (7) days before it is held. The procedure for calling, giving notice and voting at caucuses shall follow the provisions for municipal caucuses in Title 21-A M.R.S.A. Section 311 et seq. as may be amended. No political party designation shall be included on the ballot for any municipal office.~~

Sec. 7.3. Nomination by Petition.

Access to the ballot ~~may shall~~ be determined by the filing of a petition with the City Clerk. No political party designation shall be included on the ballot for any municipal office. Title 21-A Section 351 et seq. as may be amended is incorporated by reference and made a part hereof except as amended below:

Number of Signatures:

Office of Mayor and At-Large Offices. Petitions must be signed by a number of registered voters of the City equal to at least fifteen (15), but not more than twenty-five (25) from each of the five wards of the City.

Ward Offices. Petitions must be signed by a number of registered voters of the City equal to at least twenty-five (25), but not more than fifty (50) from the ward for which the candidate is seeking office.

When Signed. The petition may not be signed more than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the election in which it is to be used.

Proposed Referendum Question

Question 2. Shall the City of Westbrook approve the Charter amendment summarized below?

Summary of amendment: To eliminate Section 7.2 of the Charter, which allows a political party caucus to nominate a candidate for municipal office, thus requiring all municipal candidates to file nomination petitions with the City Clerk after obtaining signatures of support from qualified voters and to add to Section 7.3 the existing prohibition on the inclusion of political party designation on the ballot for any municipal office.