

ABSTENTIONS

An abstention is a non-expression and cannot be considered a vote in favor of or against a motion.

Each member of a public body has the duty to express a choice or preference by voting on the issues, but can legally abstain from doing so when there is a statutory or ethical conflict of interest.

Abstentions are intended for situations where a member may have a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the matter being voted on.

Not to vote is to abstain.

When choosing to abstain, the member shall state the reason for his/her abstention.

Legal Reference: 30 MRSA ss2605 et seq.

Cross Reference: BCB Board Member Conflict of Interest

First Reading: June 3, 2009

Adopted: June 17, 2009

Revised: May 14, 2014