

## ABSTENTIONS

NEPN/NSBA Code: BEDFA

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. Not to vote is to abstain.

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

Legal Reference: TITLE 30 MRSA SEC. 2605 ET SEQ.

Cross Reference: BEDF - VOTING METHOD

Adopted: 11-16-95