

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(New Title)
New Draft of H. P. 1885, L. D. 2395
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2514

H. P. 1973 House of Representatives, February 15, 1974
Reported by Mr. Farnham from Committee on State Government and
printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FOUR

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for Appointment of Justices of the Peace and Notaries Public to an Initial Term by the Governor with the Approval of the Executive Council and for Additional Terms of These Officers to be by Renewal of Commission, as Provided by Law.

Constitutional amendment. Resolved: Two-thirds of each branch of the Legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the Constitution of this State be proposed:

Constitution, Article V, Part First, Section 8, amended. Section 8 of Part First of Article V of the Constitution is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 8. To nominate officers. He shall nominate, and, with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint all judicial officers (except judges of probate), coroners, and notaries public, **except that he shall appoint justices of the peace and notaries public for an initial term only, and additional terms of these officers shall be by renewal of commission, as provided by law;** and he shall also nominate, and with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint all other civil and military officers, whose appointment is not by this Constitution, or shall not by law be otherwise provided for, except the land agent; and every such nomination shall be made seven days, at least, prior to such appointment.

Form of question and date when amendment shall be voted upon. Resolved: That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns and the assessors of the several plantations of this State are empowered and directed to

notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and holding biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of Senators and Representatives at the next general election in the month of November or special state-wide election on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following the passage of this resolution to give in their votes upon the amendment proposed in the foregoing resolution, and the question shall be:

"Shall the Constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the Legislature to provide for appointment of justices of the peace and notaries public to an initial term by the Governor with the approval of the Executive Council and for additional terms of these officers to be by renewal of commission, as provided by law?"

The inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said question, and shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed against the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same. The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the office of the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for Governor and Members of the Legislature, and the Governor and Council shall review the same, and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of the amendment, the Governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation, and the amendment shall thereupon, as of the date of said proclamation, become a part of the Constitution.

Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved: That the Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to the several cities, towns and plantations ballots and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolution, accompanied by a copy thereof.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this resolution is reflected in the title and is intended to implement recommendation 1, Department of Secretary of State, in the Maine Management and Cost Survey Report. This recommendation was supported by the Governor in his special message to the 106th special session on January 10, 1974. Cost of referendum is \$15,000.