

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
108TH LEGISLATURE (Filing No. H-1258)  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "Q" to S.P. 772, L.D. 2209, RESOLUTION,  
Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Limit the Amount of  
Government Spending and Taxes which may be Made without Voter  
Approval.

Amend the resolution by striking out in the title everything  
after the word "Taxes" and before the period.

Further amend the resolution by striking out everything after  
the first paragraph and inserting in its place the following:

'Constitution, Art. I, §22, sub-§1 is enacted to read:

1. Control of appropriations. The Legislature shall enact  
prior to June 30, 1979  
a Governmental Spending Limitation Act. All statutes enacted to  
carry out the purposes of this section shall require the affirmative  
vote of two-thirds of the members of each house present and voting.

Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question;  
effective date. Resolved: That the city aldermen, town select-  
men and plantation assessors of this State shall notify the in-  
habitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to  
meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide  
election, at the next general election in the month of November  
or special statewide election on the Tuesday following the first  
Monday of November following the passage of this resolution, to  
vota upon the ratification of the amendment proposed in this  
resolution by voting upon the following question:

"Shall the Constitution be amended, as proposed by the first special session of the 108th Legislature to limit the amount of government spending and taxes?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below the words "Yes" or "No." The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns, and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes are in favor of the amendment, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment shall become part of the Constitution on the date of the proclamation.

Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved: That the Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this resolution necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.

Statement of Fact

This amendment provides for a simple constitutional provision requiring the Legislature to enact a Governmental Spending Limitation prior to June 30, 1979 Act, and requiring that all statutes enacted pursuant to this provision require a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.

Filed by Mr. Lynch of Livermore Falls

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House  
(9/12/78)