

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
116TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 948, L.D. 1277,  
"RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine  
to Provide the Governor with a Line-item Veto"

Amend the resolution by striking out all of the 3rd  
paragraph after the title (page 1, lines 7 to 16 in L.D.) and  
inserting in its place the following:

'2-A. Line-item veto of items appearing in appropriation or  
allocation sections of legislative documents. The Governor has  
power to disapprove any item or items appearing in an  
appropriation or allocation section of a legislative document.  
For any such disapproved item or items, the Governor shall  
replace the item with one that will not result in an increase in  
an appropriation or allocation or a decrease in a deappropriation  
or deallocation. The Governor shall specify the distinct item or  
items that are revised and the part or parts of the legislative  
document not specifically revised become law. The item or items  
of appropriation or allocation that have been disapproved become  
law as revised unless passed over the Governor's veto as provided  
in section 2, except that, notwithstanding any other provision in  
this Constitution for items vetoed pursuant to this section, a  
majority of all the elected members in each house is sufficient  
to override the veto. Except as provided in this section, the  
Governor may not disapprove, omit or modify any language  
allocated to the statutes or appearing in an unallocated section  
of law.'

Further amend the resolution by inserting at the end before  
the statement of fact the following:

**FISCAL NOTE**

The estimated cost of sending this constitutional amendment  
out to referendum will vary according to the total number of

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

2. of 3.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 948, L.D. 1277

2 referenda enacted during the First Regular Session of the 116th  
Legislature. The estimated cost to the Secretary of State if one  
4 to 6 referenda are enacted is \$95,000. Each additional  
referendum costs an additional \$7,000.

6 General Fund savings will accrue if the Governor exercises  
the line-item veto and if that veto is sustained by both houses  
8 of the Legislature. The amounts of potential General Fund  
savings can not be determined.

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**STATEMENT OF FACT**

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16 This amendment clarifies that the line-item veto may only be  
used for items appearing in an appropriation or allocation  
section of a bill. The amendment further requires that the  
18 Governor replace items that are disapproved with items that do  
not result in increased appropriations or allocations or  
20 decreased deappropriations or deallocations. The amendment also  
adds a fiscal note.

Reported by the Minority of the Committee on Appropriations and  
Financial Affairs  
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the  
House  
5/17/93 (Filing No. H-338)