

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 122

S.P. 52

In Senate, January 11, 1999

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine
to Amend the Timing of Elections Following the Submission of a
Petition for People's Veto.**

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LONGLEY of Waldo.
Cosponsored by Senators: HARRIMAN of Cumberland, PINGREE of Knox, RAND of
Cumberland, Representatives: MAYO of Bath, TOWNSEND of Portland, PERKINS of
Penobscot, PINKHAM of Lamoine, ROSEN of Bucksport, STANWOOD of Southwest Harbor.

2 inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to
meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide
4 election, at a statewide election on the Tuesday following the
first Monday of November following the passage of this
6 resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment
proposed in this resolution by voting upon the following question:

8 "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to require
that a petition for a people's veto be voted on at the next
10 statewide or general election, rather than at a special
election?"

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

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

30 **SUMMARY**

32 This resolution requires that a petition for a people's veto
34 be submitted to the people either at a regular statewide or
general election, whichever comes first, not less than 60 days
36 after the Governor's proclamation that the petition will be
submitted to the voters. This resolution eliminates language in
38 the Constitution of Maine that authorizes the Governor to call a
special election for purposes of submitting a petition for a
40 people's veto to the voters.