

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1331

H.P. 866

House of Representatives, March 27, 2025

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine Regarding When the Governor May Call the Legislature into
Session**

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MORRIS of Turner.

Cosponsored by Representatives: DRINKWATER of Milford, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, FLYNN of Albion, GREENWOOD of Wales, LIBBY of Auburn, SMITH of Palermo, TUELL of East Machias, Senator: TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

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

Constitution, Art. V, Pt. First, §13 is amended to read:

Section 13. Convene the Legislature on extraordinary occasions, and adjourn it in case of disagreement; may change the place of meeting. The Governor may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Legislature, except that if the Legislature has adjourned without day, the Governor may not convene the Legislature until 90 days after the Legislature adjourned without day; and in case of disagreement between the 2 Houses with respect to the time of adjournment, adjourn them to such time, as the Governor shall think proper, not beyond the day of the next regular session; and if, since the last adjournment, the place where the Legislature were next to convene shall have become dangerous from an enemy or contagious sickness, may direct the session to be held at some other convenient place within the State.

Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective date.

Resolved: That the municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, at a statewide election held in the month of November following the passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment proposed in this resolution by voting upon the following question:

"Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to provide that if the Legislature has adjourned without specifying a date to return, the Governor may not convene the Legislature until 90 days after the Legislature adjourned without specifying a date to return?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must 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. If it appears that a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of the amendment, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment becomes part of the Constitution of Maine 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 purposes of this referendum.

SUMMARY

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to provide that if the Legislature has adjourned without day, the Governor may not convene the Legislature until 90 days after the Legislature adjourned without day.