

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1553

H.P. 1011

House of Representatives, April 10, 2025

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine to Require a Supermajority of the Legislature to Approve  
Raising Taxes**

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Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative HENDERSON of Rumford.  
Cosponsored by Senator BICKFORD of Androscoggin and  
Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor,  
GREENWOOD of Wales, LAVIGNE of Berwick, MCINTYRE of Lowell, MINGO of Calais,  
QUINT of Hodgdon, RUDNICKI of Fairfield.

**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. I, §22** is amended to read:

**Section 22. Taxes.** No tax or duty shall be imposed without the consent of the people or of their representatives in the Legislature. The rate of taxation imposed by the State with regard to any tax may not be increased and a new tax may not be imposed by the State unless by consent of the people by exercise of their right of direct initiative or by a 2/3 vote of the members of each House.

**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 require that the rate of taxation imposed by the State with regard to any tax may not be increased and a new tax may not be imposed by the State unless by consent of the people by exercise of their right of direct initiative or by a 2/3 vote of the members of each House?"

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 require that the rate of taxation imposed by the State with regard to any tax may not be increased and a new tax may not be imposed by the State unless by consent of the people by exercise of their right of direct initiative or by a 2/3 vote of the members of each House.