

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE

No 125.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLUTIONS concerning an amendment of the
constitution of Maine.

Resolved, That the following amendment to the
2 constitution of this state be proposed for the action
3 of the legal voters of this state in the manner pro-
4 vided by the constitution, to wit:
5 Biennial elections and biennial sessions.
6 The governor, senators and representatives in the
7 legislature, shall be elected biennially, and hold
8 office two years from the first Wednesday in Jan-
9 uary next succeeding their election; and the legis-
10 lature, at the first session next after the adoption
11 of this article, shall make all needful provisions by
12 law concerning the tenure of office of all county
13 officers, and concerning the annual or biennial re-
14 ports of the state treasurer and other state officers
15 and institutions; and shall make all such provisions

16 by law as may be required in consequence of the
17 change from annual to biennial elections, and from
18 annual to biennial sessions of the legislature. The
19 first election under this article shall be in the year
20 one thousand eight hundred and eighty; and the
21 first meeting of the legislature under this article
22 shall be on the first Wednesday of January, eigh-
23 teen hundred and eighty-one.

24 Section four, article two; section five, part one,
25 article four; section four, part two, article four;
26 section one, part three, article four; section thirteen,
27 part one, article five; section two, part two, article
28 five; section one, part three, article five; section
29 one, part four, article five; section four, part four,
30 article five; section three, article seven; section
31 four, article nine, and section eleven, article nine,
32 are amended, by substituting the word “biennial”
33 for the word “annual” wherever it occurs.

34 Section two, part one, article five, is amended,
35 by striking out all after the word “office” and sub-
36 stituting therefor the following words: “for two
37 years from the first Wednesday of January next
38 following the election.” Section seven, article six,
39 is amended, by striking out the following words:
40 “annual election on the second Monday of Septem-
41 ber” and insert in lieu thereof the following words:

42 “biennial election on the first Tuesday next after
43 the first Monday in November.” Section seven,
44 article six, is amended by striking out the word
45 “September,” where it occurs the second time, and
46 inserting in lieu thereof the word “November.”
47 Section ten, article nine, is amended by striking
48 out the words “second Monday of September,” and
49 inserting in lieu, “first Tuesday next after the first
50 Monday of November.” Section twelve, article
51 nine, is amended by striking out the following
52 words: “second Monday in September, annually,”
53 and inserting in lieu thereof, “first Tuesday next
54 after the first Monday in November.” Section two,
55 article ten, is amended by striking out the words
56 “annual meetings in the month of September,” and
57 inserting in lieu thereof, “biennial meetings in the
58 month of November.”

Resolved, That the aldermen of cities, the select-
2 men of towns, and the assessors of the several
3 plantations of this state, are hereby empowered
4 and directed to notify the voters of their respective
5 cities, towns and plantations, in the manner pre-
6 scribed by law, at the annual meeting in September
7 next, to give in their votes upon the amendment
8 proposed in the foregoing resolution; and the ques-
9 tion shall be, “Shall the constitution be amended

10 as proposed by a resolution of the legislature, pro-
11 viding for biennial sessions of the legislature ;
12 and that the governor and other state officers shall
13 be elected on the first Tuesday next after the first
14 Monday in November biennially?" And the in-
15 habitants of the said cities, towns and plantations
16 shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor
17 of said amendment expressing it by the word
18 "Yes," upon their ballots, and those opposed to the
19 amendment expressing it by the word "No," upon
20 their ballots. And the ballots shall be received,
21 sorted, counted and declared, in open ward, town
22 and plantation meeting, and lists shall be made out
23 of the votes by the aldermen, selectmen, assessors
24 and clerks of the several wards, towns and planta-
25 tions, and returned to the office of the secretary of
26 state, in the same manner as votes for senators;
27 and the governor and council shall count the same
28 and make return thereof to the next legislature;
29 and if a majority of the votes are in favor of said
30 amendment, the constitution shall be amended
31 accordingly.

Resolved, That the secretary of state shall prepare
2 and furnish to the several cities, towns and planta-
3 tions, blank returns, in conformity to the resolves,
4 accompanied with a copy of these resolves.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 13, 1879. }

Minority Report, introduced by Mr. BROWN of Bangor, and
on his motion ordered printed.

B. L. STAPLES, *Clerk.*