

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 494

In House of Representatives, March 2, 1915.

Majority report of committee accepted and ordered printed under joint rules.

C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE. Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Giving Political Rights to Women upon Equal Terms with Men.

Resolved, two-thirds of the legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the Constitution of this State be proposed for the action of the legal voters, to wit, by adding thereto the following article:

'The right to vote or to hold office shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex. In the construction of this Constitution the masculine pronoun shall be construed as including both men and women.

'Section one of article two of this Constitution is amended by striking out the word "male" in the first line of said section.'

Resolved. That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of
13 towns, and the assessors of the several plantations in this
14 state are hereby empowered and directed to notify the in-
15 habitants of their respective cities, towns, and plantations
16 in the manner prescribed by law to give in their votes at the
17 next general election upon the amendment proposed in the
18 foregoing resolution, and the question shall be: "Shall the
19 Constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the
20 legislature giving political rights to women upon equal terms
21 with men?"

And the inhabitants of said cities, towns, and plantations
23 shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of the
24 amendment expressing it by the word "Yes" upon their bal-
25 lots and those opposed to the amendment by the word "No"
26 upon their ballots, and the ballots shall be assorted, counted,
27 and declared in open ward, town, and plantation meetings,
28 and returns made to the office of secretary of state in the
29 same manner as votes for governor and members of the
30 legislature, and the governor and council shall count the
31 same and make returns to the next legislature, and if it
32 shall appear that a majority of the votes are in favor of the
33 amendment, the Constitution shall be amended accordingly.

Resolved. That the secretary of state shall prepare and
35 furnish to the several cities, towns, and plantations ballots
36 and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolves
37 accompanied by a copy thereof.