

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SUBSTITUTE FOR H. P. 105—L. D. 52

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N I N E T Y - F I F T H   L E G I S L A T U R E

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1393**

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H. P. 1813

House of Representatives, May 11, 1951.

Offered as a substitute for original resolve. On motion by Mr. Chase of Cape Elizabeth, tabled pending adoption of substitute, ordered printed and Monday, May 14, 1951, assigned.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-ONE

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**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Relating to Voting by Citizens in the Armed Forces and Others Absent or Physically Incapacitated.**

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**Constitutional amendment. Resolved:** Two-thirds of each branch of the legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the constitution of this state be proposed:

**Constitution, Art. II, § 4, amended.** Section 4 of article II of the constitution, as amended by article XXIII, is hereby further amended by repealing all after the 1st sentence thereof and inserting in place thereof the following:

**'The legislature under proper enactment shall authorize and provide for voting by citizens of the state absent therefrom in the armed forces of the United States or of this state and for voting by other citizens absent or physically incapacitated for reasons deemed sufficient.'**

**Form of question and date when amendment shall be voted upon. Resolved:** That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns and the assessors of the several plantations of this state are hereby empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plan-

tations to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and holding biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of senators and representatives at the next general or special state-wide election, to give in their votes upon the amendment proposed in the foregoing resolution, and the question shall be:

“Shall the constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the legislature to re-affirm the right to vote of citizens absent in the armed forces and of others absent or physically incapacitated?”

And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of the amendment voting “Yes” upon their ballots and those opposed to the amendment voting “No” upon their ballots, and the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the office of the secretary of state in the same manner as votes for governor and members of the legislature, and the governor and council shall count the same, and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of the amendment, the governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation, and the amendment shall thereupon, as of the date of said proclamation, become a part of the constitution.

**Secretary of state shall prepare ballots. Resolved:** That the secretary of state shall prepare and furnish to the several cities, towns and plantations ballots and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolve, accompanied by a copy thereof.