

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1418**

S. P. 526

In Senate, April 7, 1953

Reported by the majority of the committee from the Committee on Taxation and ordered printed under Joint Rules No. 10.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-THREE

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**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Authorize the Legislature to Establish Classifications of Property for Uniform Assessment for Taxation.**

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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. IX, Section 8, amended.** Section 8 of Article IX of the constitution is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Section 8. All taxes upon real and personal estate, assessed by authority of this state, shall be apportioned and assessed equally **in the respective taxing districts, according in relation** to the just value thereof, **either generally or within such classes by kind as the legislature may establish**; but the legislature shall have power to levy ~~a tax~~ **taxes upon real and personal property in the unorganized territory and upon** intangible personal property **throughout the state** at such ~~rate~~ **rates** as it deems wise and equitable without regard to the ~~rate~~ **rates** applied to other classes of property.'

**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 state-wide election in September, 1954, 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 authorize the legislature to establish classifications of property for the purposes of taxation and to provide uniform methods of assessments within such classifications?”

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.