

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

PASSED BY THE

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

S T A T E O F M A I N E ,

A. D. 1844.

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820, February 26, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

AUGUSTA:

W^M R. SMITH & Co., PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1844.

RESOLVES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

1844.

CHAP. 280. towns and plantations, above mentioned, prior to the day set apart in such proclamations, and as soon as practicable.

Duty of clerks of towns and plantations.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of such clerks to take from the post office, at the expense of their several cities, towns and plantations, all such packages, and distribute their contents among the clergymen within their precincts, and, in case no clergymen shall be residents of such town or plantation, then it shall be the duty of the clerk to post them in some public and conspicuous situation.

[*Approved March 16, 1844.*]

Chapter 280.

Resolves in relation to the choice of electors of president and vice president.

Relative to the choice of electors of president and vice president.

Resolved, That our senators in congress be instructed, and our representatives requested, to use their influence to promote the passage of a law, this present session of congress, prescribing the day for the choice of electors of president and vice president, which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolution, signed by the governor, be forwarded by the secretary of state to each of our senators and representatives in congress.

[*Approved March 19, 1844.*]

Chapter 281.

Resolves providing for an amendment to the constitution in relation to the meeting of the legislature.

Relative to amending the constitution, so as to change the sessions of the legislature from January to May.

Resolved, two thirds of both branches of the legislature concurring, That the constitution of this state shall be amended in the fifth section of the first part of the fourth article, by striking out the words, "the first Wednesday in January", and inserting instead thereof, the words, the second Wednesday of May; and in article fourth, part second, sections third, fourth and fifth; article fourth, part third, section first; article fifth, part first, sections second and third; article fifth, part second, section second; and article ninth, section fourth, by striking out in each of said sections, the words, "the first Wednesday of January," and inserting instead thereof, the words, the second Wednesday of May; and the provisions of the constitution shall be so amended that the period of the service

of the governor, senators, representatives, councilors, secretary of state, and treasurer, next to be elected, shall commence on the first CHAP. 281. Wednesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, and continue until the second Wednesday of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-six.

Resolved, That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of the several towns, and the assessors of the several plantations in this state, are hereby empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations, in the manner prescribed by law, at the annual meeting in September next, to give in their votes upon the amendment proposed in the foregoing resolve; and the question shall be, "shall the constitution be amended as proposed by a resolve of the legislature, providing, that the annual meeting of the legislature shall be on the second Wednesday of May, instead of the first Wednesday of January, and that the governor and other state officers elected for the political year commencing on the first Wednesday in January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, shall hold their offices till the second Wednesday of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, and the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations, shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of said amendment, expressing it by the word "yes" upon their ballots, and those opposed to the amendment, expressing it, by the word "no" upon their ballots; and the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared, in open ward, town, and plantation meetings, and lists shall be made out of the votes by the aldermen, selectmen and assessors, and clerks of the several cities, towns and plantations, and returned to the office of secretary of state, in the same manner as votes for senators, and the governor and council shall count the same and make return thereof to the next legislature, and if a majority of the votes are in favor of said amendment, the constitution shall be amended accordingly.

Resolved, That the secretary of state shall prepare and furnish the several cities, towns and plantations, blank returns in conformity to the resolves, accompanied with a copy of these resolves.

[Approved March 19, 1844.]