

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Acts and Resolves

As Passed by the

Seventy-Eighth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1917

Including Acts and Resolves of the Special Session of the
Seventy-Seventh Legislature held in 1916.

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RESOLVES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Seventy-Eighth
Legislature

1917

CHAP. 115

rection of the governor and council, for the purpose of employing a competent person or persons whose duty it shall be to assist said board in verifying and protecting, so far as practicable, a proper description of each parcel or tract of wild land, and the individual or corporate ownership thereof, in townships not incorporated, in order that such lands may be properly described for taxation purposes, and for incorporating such description in deeds when the lands are sold for taxes; also for the employment of a competent person or persons to assist said board of state assessors in making such special exploration of wild land townships, and such lands located in incorporated towns and plantations, as the board of state assessors may deem advisable, to ascertain for taxation purposes their just and fair value. Said board in its regular report shall incorporate a report of the work done under this resolve and a summarized statement of their expenditure.

Approved April 7, 1917.

Chapter 115.

Resolve, to Provide for the Payment of Telephone Service for Members During the Present Session of the Legislature.

Telephone service for members of legislature. Resolved: That there be, and hereby is, appropriated in favor of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company the sum of five hundred dollars in payment for telephone service of members of the present legislature during its present session in accordance with the terms of the agreement made with said company by the joint committee authorized to make an agreement with said company for such service.

Approved April 7, 1917.

Chapter 116.

Resolve, Proposing an Amendment to Section Three of Part One of Article Four of the Constitution in Regard to the Apportionment of Representatives in the Event of Merger of Towns and Cities.

Constitutional amendment—apportionment of representatives. Resolved: Two-thirds of the legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the constitution of this state be proposed for action of the legal voters, to wit: By inserting in the eighth line of section three of part first of article four of the constitution, after the words "but no town shall ever be entitled to more than seven representatives," the words 'except that in the event of the merger of towns or cities, the new town or city shall be allowed the combined representation of the former units', so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Section 3. Each town having fifteen hundred inhabitants, may elect one representative; each town having three thousand seven hundred and fifty may elect two; each town having six thousand seven hundred fifty may elect three; each town having ten thousand five hundred may elect

CHAP. 116

four; each town having fifteen thousand may elect five; each town having twenty thousand two hundred and fifty may elect six; each town having twenty-six thousand two hundred and fifty may elect seven; but no town shall ever be entitled to more than seven representatives, except that in the event of the merger of towns or cities, the new town or city shall be allowed the combined representation of the former units; and towns and plantations duly organized, not having fifteen hundred inhabitants, shall be classed as conveniently as may be into districts containing that number, and so as not to divide towns, and each such district may elect one representative; and when on this apportionment the number of representatives shall be two hundred, a different apportionment shall take place upon the above principle; and in case the fifteen hundred shall be too large or too small to apportion all the representatives to any county, it shall be so increased or diminished as to give the number of representatives according to the above rule and proportion; and whenever any town or towns, plantation or plantations not entitled to elect a representative shall determine against a classification with any other town or plantation, the legislature may, at each apportionment of representatives on the application of such town or plantation, authorize it to elect a representative for such portion of time and such periods, as shall be equal to its portion of representation; and the right of representation so established, shall not be altered until the next general apportionment.'

Date of vote. Resolved, That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of 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 to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and holding biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of senators and representatives, on the second Monday in September following the passage of this resolve, 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, allowing representation in the house of representatives to remain as formerly in the event of the merger of towns or cities?' And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of the amendment expressing it by the word "Yes" upon their ballots and those opposed to the amendment 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 returns made to the office of 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, it shall thereupon become a part of the constitution, and the governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation.

Notification of municipalities. 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 resolves accompanied by a copy thereof.

Approved April 7, 1917.