

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 7, 1994 to June 30, 1995**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**SEPTEMBER 29, 1995**

**PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES**  
**IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,**  
**TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4**

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**J.S. McCarthy Company**  
**Augusta, Maine**  
**1995**

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CONSTITUTIONAL RESOLUTIONS OF THE STATE OF MAINE  
AS PASSED AT  
THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
1995

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CHAPTER 1

H.P. 729 - L.D. 1003

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an  
Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine to Establish a Line-item Veto**

**Constitutional amendment. RESOLVED:** Two thirds of each branch of the Legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the Constitution of Maine be proposed:

**Constitution, Art. IV, Part Third, §2-A** is enacted to read:

**Section 2-A. Line-item veto of dollar amounts appearing in appropriation or allocation sections of legislative documents.** The Governor has power to disapprove any dollar amount appearing in an appropriation section or allocation section, or both, of an enacted legislative document. Unless the Governor exercises the line-item veto power authorized in this section no later than one day after receiving for signature the enacted legislation, the powers of the Governor as set out in section 2 apply to the entire enacted legislation. For any disapproved dollar amount, the Governor shall replace the dollar amount with one that does not result in an increase in an appropriation or allocation or a decrease in a deappropriation or deallocation. When disapproving a dollar amount pursuant to this section, the Governor may not propose an increase in an appropriation or allocation elsewhere in the legislative document. The Governor shall specify the distinct dollar amounts that are revised, and the part or parts of the legislative document not specifically revised become law. The dollar amounts in an appropriation or allocation that have been disapproved become law as revised by the Governor, unless passed over the Governor's veto by the Legislature as the dollar amounts originally appeared in the enacted bill as presented to the Governor; except that, notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution for dollar amounts vetoed pursuant to this section, a majority of all the elected members in each House is sufficient to override the veto, and each dollar amount vetoed must be voted on separately to override the veto. Except as provided in this section, the Governor may not disapprove, omit or modify any language allocated to

the statutes or appearing in an unallocated section of law.

; and be it further

**Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective date. Resolved:** That the municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, at a statewide election, on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following the passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment proposed in this resolution by voting upon the following question:

"Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to give the Governor a line-item veto over expenditures of state funds, providing that vetoed items may be passed over the Governor's veto by a majority of all of the elected members of the Senate and the House of Representatives?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of the amendment, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment becomes part of the Constitution on the date of the proclamation; and be it further

**Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved:** That the Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this resolution necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.

Effective pending referendum.

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