

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 2, 1998 to June 19, 1999**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**SEPTEMBER 18, 1999**

**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**  
**1999**

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CONSTITUTIONAL RESOLUTIONS OF THE STATE OF MAINE  
AS PASSED AT  
THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE  
1999

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CHAPTER 1

S.P. 52 - L.D. 122

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an  
Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine to Amend the Timing of  
Elections Following the Submission  
of a Petition for People's 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, §17, sub-§1** is amended to read:

**1. Petition procedure; petition for people's veto.** Upon written petition of electors, the number of which shall not be less than 10% of the total vote for Governor cast in the last gubernatorial election preceding the filing of such petition, and addressed to the Governor and filed in the office of the Secretary of State by the hour of 5:00 p.m., on or before the 90th day after the recess of the Legislature, or if such 90th day is a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday, by the hour of 5:00 p.m., on the preceding day which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday, requesting that one or more Acts, bills, resolves or resolutions, or part or parts thereof, passed by the Legislature but not then in effect by reason of the provisions of the preceding section, be referred to the people, such Acts, bills, resolves, or resolutions or part or parts thereof as are specified in such petition shall not take effect until 30 days after the Governor shall have announced by public proclamation that the same have been ratified by a majority of the electors voting thereon at a statewide or general election.

**Constitution, Art. IV, Part Third, §17, sub-§3** is amended to read:

**3. Referral to electors; proclamation by Governor.** As soon as it appears that the effect of any Act, bill, resolve, or resolution or part or parts thereof has been suspended by petition in manner aforesaid, the Governor by public proclamation shall give notice thereof and of the time when such measure is to be voted on by the people, which shall be at the next statewide or general election, whichever comes first, not less than 60 days after such proclamation, ~~or in case of no statewide election within 6 months~~

~~thereafter the Governor may order such measure submitted to the people at a special election not less than 60 days nor more than 6 months after proclamation thereof.~~ If the Governor fails to order such measure to be submitted to the people at the next statewide or general election, the Secretary of State shall, by proclamation, order such measure to be submitted to the people at such an election and such order shall be sufficient to enable the people to vote.

; 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 require that a petition for a people's veto be voted on at the next statewide or general election, rather than at a special election?"

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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