

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING THE

EXTRA SESSION OF 1853, AND SESSION OF 1854.



Augusta:

WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1854.

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# THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE.

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SENATE.

No. 3.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVES providing for an amendment of the constitution, in relation to the election of civil officers.

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*Resolved*, (two-thirds of both houses of the legislature  
2 concurring) That it is expedient to alter the consti-  
3 tution of this state by adopting the subjoined article  
4 of amendment :

### ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

5 In all elections of civil officers by the people of this  
6 state, whose election is provided for by the constitu-  
7 tion, the person having the highest number of votes  
8 shall be deemed and declared to be elected.

*Resolved*, That the aldermen of the several cities  
2 and the selectmen of the several towns, and the  
3 assessors of the several plantations in this state, are  
4 hereby empowered and directed to notify the inhabi-

5 tants of their respective cities, towns and plantations  
6 in the manner prescribed by law, at the annual meet-  
7 ing in September next, to give in their votes upon the  
8 amendment proposed in the foregoing resolve ; and  
9 the question shall be, Shall the constitution be  
10 amended as proposed by a resolve of the legislature,  
11 providing, that “in all elections of civil officers by  
12 “the people of this state whose election is provided  
13 “for by the constitution, the person having the high-  
14 “est number of votes shall be deemed and declared  
15 “to be elected” ? and the inhabitants of said cities,  
16 towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said  
17 question, those in favor of said amendment expressing  
18 it by the word *Yes*, and those opposed to the amend-  
19 ment expressing it by the word *No*, upon their ballots,  
20 and the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and  
21 declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings,  
22 and lists shall be made out of the votes by the alder-  
23 men, selectmen, assessors and clerks of the several  
24 cities, towns and plantations, and returned to the  
25 secretary of state in the same manner as votes for  
26 senators, and the governor and council shall count  
27 the same and make return thereof to the next legisla-

28 ture, and if a majority of the votes are in favor of  
29 said amendment, the constitution shall be amended  
30 accordingly.

*Resolved,* That the secretary of state shall prepare  
2 and furnish the several cities, towns and plantations,  
3 blank returns in conformity to the foregoing resolves  
4 accompanied by a copy thereof.

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, Feb. 17, 1854.

This Resolve was read once, and laid upon the table, and *Ordered*, That 400 copies be printed for the use of the Legislature.

WILLIAM TRAFTON, *Secretary*.