

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
STATE GOVERNMENT  
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1983

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State Government Committee

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23 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE DIRECTOR Violette LV/WD  
OF THE MAINE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY  
SHALL BE A NONVOTING COMMISSIONER OF  
THE STATE AUTHORITY

SUMMARY: This bill proposed to make the Director of the Maine State Housing Authority a nonvoting member of the Maine State Housing Authority. This bill is based upon the concept that directors of several other commissions and authorities, substantive in scope in terms of powers and financial responsibilities, are non-voting members on their respective boards and commissions. For example, the Director of the State Lottery Commission and the Director of the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages are not members of their respective commissions.

Unlike these agencies however, the Maine State Housing Authority is not a state agency.

59 RESOLUTION, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT Clark,N. PASSED CONRES 1  
TO THE CONSTITUTION OF MAINE TO PRO-  
VIDE EQUALITY OF RIGHTS UNDER THE LAW

SUMMARY: This bill proposed a Constitutional Amendment to the Maine Constitution to constitutionally guarantee the rights of all individuals regardless of sex. The Committee changed the referendum date from November, 1973 to November, 1974.

65 RESOLUTION, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT Webster ONTP  
TO THE CONSTITUTION OF MAINE TO PRE-  
VENT INITIATED LEGISLATION REJECTED BY  
THE ELECTORS AT REFERENDUM FROM BEING  
REINITIATED UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY TWICE  
THE NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED

SUMMARY: This bill proposed to amend the Constitution and require that any initiated bill defeated at public referendum or similar in subject matter to an initiated bill which was defeated in the previous 5 years may not be reintroduced to the Legislature and the electorate unless the bill has twice the number of signatures required to initiate new legislation. This proposal, would have required 92,060 signatures for initiated bills subject to the proposed provision compared to the 46,030 signatures presently required. These figures, however are based on the number of votes in the last gubernatorial election. The bill was rejected by the Committee for several reasons. One reason pertained to freedom of expression. Another reason pertained to the determination as to whether the legislation would be subject to the additional signatures requirement. The initiated bill could be challenged prior to, during, or following a referendum vote.