

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



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263 RESOLUTION, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT Hichens
TO THE CONSTITUTION OF MAINE TO EXTEND
THE TENURE FOR SHERIFFS FROM TWO YEARS
TO FOUR YEARS

SUMMARY: ID 263 proposed a constitutional amendment to increase the term of office for sheriffs from 2 years to 4 years. The purpose of ID 263 is to enable sheriffs to perform more efficiently by avoiding preparing for election every 2 years. Currently, 11 states have 2 year terms of office for Sheriff and Massachusetts has six year terms of office. Thus, 38 states have 4 year terms of office for sheriffs. In 6 states, a sheriff may serve no more than 2 terms. Sheriffs are appointed in the states of Hawaii and Rhode Island; in the cities of Denver, New York, and St. Louis; and in the counties of Dade (Fla), Denver (Colo), and Nassau (New York).

276 AN ACT TO AMEND THE MAINE ADMINIS- Brown,D. ONTP
TRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT TO REQUIRE
LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL OF RULES AND
REGULATIONS

SUMMARY: ID 276 proposed to empower the joint standing committees of the Legislature to review state agency rules and to nullify proposed rules. The purpose of the bill was to provide greater assurance that agency rules would be consistent with statutory and legislative intent. In addition, the present procedure for rule review by a legislative committee, in the opinion of some persons, is a very onerous system for members of the general public who oppose existing rules. An Attorney-General's opinion of Maine as well as the opinion of the Supreme Court in Connecticut ruled that legislative committee veto power over state agency rules violated the constitution of these states.

307 JOINT RESOLUTION TO RATIFY AN AMEND- Baker OUGHT TO BE
MENT TO THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION TO ADOPTED
PROVIDE FOR REPRESENTATION OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN THE CONGRESS

310 AN ACT TO AMEND ELIGIBILITY RE- Webster
QUIREMENTS UNDER THE HOME PROGRAM

SUMMARY: ID 310 is a new draft of ID 75. This new draft proposed to limit HOME program monies provided to new home buyers by the Maine State Housing Authority through convention banks. The new draft restricted these monies to single family owner-occupied dwellings with no more than 2 family units.