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June 5, 1959

Sur June 11, 1959

Honorable Joseph T. Edgar Speaker of the House House of Representatives State House Augusts, Maine

Bear Mr. Idgar:

We have your oral request for an interpretation of the term "two-thirds of the members elected to each house", as that term is used in Article IV, Part Third, section 16, as being the vote required to pass emergency legislation.

Your question arises as the result of vacancies in the House caused by death, and the seats remain unfilled.

We are of the opinion that the term "members elected" means those members holding seats at the time the bill is presented, rather than the total membership as originally elected.

Very truly yours,

Frank E. Hancock Attorney General

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