

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 637**

H. P. 432

House of Representatives, January 24, 1963

Referred to Committee on Constitutional Amendments and Legislative Reapportionment. Sent up for concurrence and 1000 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Cottrell of Portland.

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## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-THREE

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**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Apportion the House of Representatives.**

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**Constitutional amendment. Resolved:** Two-thirds of each branch of the Legislature concurring, that the following amendments to the Constitution of this State be proposed:

**Constitution, Article IV, Part First, Section 2, repealed and replaced.** Section 2 of Part First of Article IV of the Constitution is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

**Section 2. Number and tenure of Representatives; census.** The House of Representatives shall consist of one hundred and fifty-one members, to be elected by the qualified electors, and hold their office for two years from the day the biennial meeting of the Legislature convenes. Each member shall represent a unit base number of inhabitants determined by the resulting figure of dividing one hundred fifty-one into the total net population, according to the Federal Census but excluding college students and military personnel who are not electors in Maine. Each county shall have a number of Representatives in proportion as its population is to the unit base, allowing one Representative for each additional major fraction of unit base, providing the total number for the State does not exceed one hundred and fifty-one. Larger major fractions of unit base have precedence in county distribution. Representatives shall be apportioned to cities, towns and groups of towns within a county, one per unit base or major fraction thereof. Except that in such apportionment the county's representation shall not be exceeded, major fraction districts having precedence. Districts shall be compact and as contiguous geographically as possible. Integration on socio-economic lines shall be considered as far as possible. County

lines may be crossed in districting if mutually and equitably desirable for representation. The number of Representatives shall be fixed and apportioned at the regular session next ensuing after a Federal Census. If the Legislature fails to so act, the Secretary of State, within ninety days from the adjournment of such session, shall apportion the Representatives in accordance with this section and shall file same in his office. Whereupon, after thirty days from such filing date, the apportionment thus made shall become effective, subject to the same provisions of referendum as apply to acts of the Legislature.

County representation until the next federal enumeration shall be:

Androscoggin	14
Aroostook	16
Cumberland	28
Franklin	3
Hancock	5
Kennebec	14
Knox	5
Lincoln	3
Oxford	7
Penobscot	19
Piscataquis	3
Sagadahoc	4
Somerset	6
Waldo	4
Washington	5
York	15
	<hr/>
	151'

**Constitution, Article IV, Part First, Section 3, repealed.** Section 3 of Part First of Article IV of the Constitution is repealed.

**Form of question and date when amendments shall be voted upon. Resolved:** That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns and the assessors of the several plantations of this State are empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and holding biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of Senators and Representatives at the next general election in the month of November or special state-wide election on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following the passage of this resolve, to give in their votes upon the amendments proposed in the foregoing resolution, and the question shall be:

“Shall the Constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the Legislature to apportion the House of Representatives?”

The inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said question, and shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed against the words “Yes” or “No” their opinion of the same. The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and

returns made to the office of the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for Governor and Members of the Legislature, and the Governor and Council shall count the same, and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of the amendments, the Governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation, and the amendments shall thereupon, as of the date of said proclamation, become a part of the Constitution.

**Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved:** That the Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to the several cities, towns and plantations ballots and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolve, accompanied by a copy thereof.