

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1447

H. P. 1068

House of Representatives, April 7, 1965

Received by unanimous consent. Referred to Committee on State Government.
Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

JEROME G. PLANTE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Pike of Lubec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-FIVE

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Relating to the Election of the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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, Art. IV., Part First, Section 7, amended. Section 7 of Part First of Article IV of the Constitution is amended to read as follows:

'Section 7. To choose own officers. The House of Representatives shall choose their speaker, assistant clerk and other officers, **except the clerk.**'

Constitution, Art. IV, Part First, Section 7-A, additional. Part First of Article IV of the Constitution is amended by adding a new section 7-A, to read as follows:

'Section 7-A. Clerk. The Legislative Research Committee shall **appoint the Clerk of the House of Representatives. He shall be chosen without reference to party affiliation and solely on the ground of fitness to perform the duties of his office. He shall hold office for a term of 6 years from the date of his appointment and until his successor has been appointed and qualified.**'

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 Relating to the Election of the Clerk of 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.