

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT OF: H. P. 46 L. D. 47

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 224

H. P. 202

House of Representatives, January 21, 1969

Reported by a Majority of the Committee on State Government. Printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-NINE

**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Changing the
Tenure of Office of Senators to Four-Terms.**

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 II, Section 4, amended. The first sentence of Section 4 of Article II of the Constitution is repealed.

Constitution, Article IV, Part First, Section 2, amended. The first sentence of section 2 of Part First of Article IV of the Constitution is amended to read as follows:

The House of Representatives shall consist of one hundred and fifty-one members, to be elected by the qualified electors **on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November biennially forever**, and hold their office two years from the day next preceding the biennial meeting of the Legislature.

Constitution, Article IV, Part Second, Section 1, repealed and replaced. Section 1 of Part Second of Article IV of the Constitution, as repealed and replaced by Article CIII, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

Section 1. Number and term of Senators. The Senate shall consist of not less than thirty nor more than forty Senators elected on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November for a term of four years. One Senator shall be elected by the qualified electors of each of the districts for the choice of Senators into which the State shall be from time to time divided. Senators representing even-numbered districts shall be elected to four-year terms at

the same general election; those in odd-numbered districts elected to four-year terms at the following general election.

Effective date. Resolved: That the amendment above proposed, if adopted, shall be effected by electing the Senators representing even-numbered districts to terms of four years and those from odd-numbered districts to terms of two years at the general election in November, 1972. At the general election in November, 1974, the Senators representing odd-numbered districts shall be elected for four years.

Constitution, Article V, Part First, Section 2, amended. The first sentence of section 2 of Part First of Article V of the Constitution is amended to read as follows:

The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors **on the Tuesday following first Monday of November**, and shall hold his office for four years from the first Wednesday of January next following the election.

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 changing the tenure of office of Senators to four-year terms?”

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 review 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.