

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 578

S. P. 179

In Senate, February 4, 1969

Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

JERROLD B. SPEERS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Tanous of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-NINE

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for the Election of Officers by the Senate.

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

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

Section 7. To choose own officers. The Senate shall choose their president, Secretary and other officers as the Senate may determine. If the Senate fails to choose their President within five Legislative days after the convening of the Legislature, by reason of a tie between the two persons having the largest number of votes for President, or otherwise, the Governor shall appoint a President from among the Senators representing the majority political party in the Legislature. If the Senate fails to choose their Secretary or other officers, by reason of a tie between the two persons having the largest number of votes for the Secretary or any other officer, or otherwise, the President shall appoint a Secretary and said other officers.

Form of question and date when amendment shall be voted upon. Resolved: That the alderman 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 amendment proposed in the foregoing resolution, and the question shall be:

“Shall the Constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the Legislature to Provide for the Election of Officers by the Senate?”

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 amendment, the Governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation, and the amendment 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.