

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
104th LEGISLATURE

HOUSE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 1256, L.D. 1588, Resolve, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Affecting the Apportionment of the House of Representatives.

Amend said Resolve by striking out everything after the Title and inserting in place thereof the following:

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Constitution, Article IV, Part First, Sections 2 and 3, repealed and replaced. Sections 2 and 3 of Part First of Article IV of the Constitution are repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall consist of one hundred and fifty-one members, to be elected by the qualified electors, and hold their office two years from the day next preceding the biennial meeting of the Legislature.

Section 3. The Legislature which shall convene after the adoption of this amendment shall cause the State to be divided into single member districts for the choice of a Representative from each district. The Legislature every tenth year thereafter shall do likewise. The number of Representatives to constitute the House of Representatives shall be divided into the number of inhabitants of the State to determine a median population figure for each Representative District. In assigning inhabitants to constitute a Representative

District, the Legislature shall attempt to stay within municipal and county lines, but the major and overriding consideration shall always be that each Representative District shall have an equal number of inhabitants as nearly as is practicable. The number of inhabitants of the State shall be determined by the latest Federal Decennial Census.

In the event that the Legislature shall fail to make an apportionment, the Supreme Judicial Court shall, within sixty days following the end of the period in which the Legislature is required to act, but fails to do so, make the apportionment.

Form of question and date when amendment 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 amendment proposed in the foregoing resolution, and the question shall be:

"Shall the Constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the Legislature Affecting the Apportionment 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

(Cont'd) (Filing No. H-580)

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.'

Filed by Mr. Rideout of Manchester.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

(Filing No. H-580)

6/23/69