

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1557

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S. P. 492

In Senate, March 22, 1973

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Speers of Kennebec.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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

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**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 II, Section 4, amended.** The first sentence of Section 4 of Article II of the Constitution, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

The election of approximately one-half of Senators and Representatives shall be on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November biennially forever and the election of Governor shall be on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November every four years.

**Constitution, Article IV, Part Second, Section 1, repealed and replaced.** Section 1 of Part Second of Article IV of the Constitution, as last repealed and replaced by chapter 28 of the resolves of 1969, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

**Section. 1. Number of Senators.** The Senate shall consist of an odd number of Senators, not less than thirty-one nor more than thirty-five. One Senator shall be elected by the qualified electors of each of the Senatorial Districts into which the State shall be from time to time divided. Approximately one-half of the total number of Senators shall be elected at each biennial state election. Beginning in 1976 and every four years thereafter, and Senators elected from odd-numbered districts shall serve for two years.

**In 1978 and every four years thereafter, Senators elected from odd-numbered districts shall serve for four years.**

**Effective date.** The amendments herein proposed, if adopted, shall determine the term of office of Senators to be elected at the general election in November, 1976.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this resolution is reflected in the title.