

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 27

H. P. 19

Office of the Clerk of the House

Filed December 9, 1974 under Joint Rule 6 by Mr. Quinn of Gorham. To be printed and delivered to the House of Representatives of the 107th Legislature.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Quinn of Gorham.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide
Single Member Districts for 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 IV, Pt. 1, § 2, 2nd, 3rd & 4th sentences, are repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

The Legislature which shall convene after the adoption of this amendment shall cause the State to be divided into districts for the choice of one Representative for 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 exclusive of foreigners not naturalized, according to the latest Federal Decennial Census, to determine a median population figure for each House District. Each House District shall have a population equal to the median population figure as nearly as practicable. Whenever the population of a municipality entitles it to more than one district, the entire district shall be drawn within the municipal boundaries. The population remainder within the municipality may be included in a district drawn to cross the municipal boundary, provided that this portion of the municipality may not be separated from the other municipality or municipalities in the district by another district. No district shall cross county boundaries unless population distribution requirements of this section clearly indicate such crossing.

Constitution, Art. IV, Pt. 1, § 3, 1st ¶, is repealed.

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 resolution 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 to provide single member districts for 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 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 resolution, accompanied by a copy thereof.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this resolution is to provide for the election of members of the House of Representatives from single member districts.