

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)

FIRST REGULAR SSESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 87

H. P. 79

House of Representatives, January 11, 1979

Referred to the Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Kany of Waterville.

Cosponsors: Mr. Davies of Orono and Mr. Tarbell of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Reducing to 18 Years the Age at which a Person may serve as a Member of the Maine Legislature.

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, Art. IV, Pt. First, § 4 is amended to read:

Section 4. Qualifications. No person shall be a member of the House of Representatives, unless he shall, at the commencement of the period for which he is elected, have been five years a citizen of the United States, have arrived at the age of ~~twenty-one~~ **eighteen** years, have been a resident in this State one year; and for three months next preceding the time of his election shall have been, and, during, the period for which he is elected, shall continue to be a resident in the town or district which he represents.

Constitution, Art. IV, Pt. 2, § 6 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

Section 6. Qualifications. **The qualifications of Senators shall be the same as those of the Representatives.**

Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective date. Resolved: That the city aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, at a special statewide election on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following the passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendments proposed in this resolution by voting upon the following question:

“Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended reducing to 18 years the age at which a person may serve as a member of the Maine Legislature?”

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below the word “Yes” or “No.” The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes are in favor of the amendments, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendments shall become part of the Constitution on the date of the proclamation.

Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved: That the Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this resolution necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this resolution is to permit persons who are 18 years of age or older to serve as State Senators or State Representatives.