

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1048

H. P. 846

House of Representatives, March 5, 1979

On Motion of Mrs. Kany of Waterville, referred to the Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Bowden of Brooklin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Limit Maine Senators to not More than Five Consecutive Two-year Terms, and to Limit Maine Representatives to not More than Five Consecutive Two-year Terms.

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, § 9, is enacted to read:

Section 9. Limitation of House terms. No person shall be elected to the office of member of the House of Representatives for more than five consecutive terms of two years each.

Constitution, Art. IV, Pt. 2, § 9, is enacted to read:

Section 9. Limitation on Senate terms. No person shall be elected to the office of Senator for more than five consecutive terms of two years each.

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 to provide that no Senator may be elected to more than five consecutive terms of two years each and that no member of the House of Representatives may be elected to more than five consecutive terms of two years each?”

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

This constitutional resolution will provide that no Senator may be elected to more than 5 consecutive terms of 2 years each and that no member of the House of Representatives be elected to more than 5 consecutive terms of 2 years each.