

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1296

S. P. 427

In Senate, March 20, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

Presented by Senator Ault of Kennebec.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Require an Advisory Referendum on the Dickey-Lincoln Hydroelectric Power Project.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. Special advisory referendum on the Dickey-Lincoln Hydroelectric Power Project. The Secretary of State shall, at the special statewide election on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following the passage of this Act, hold a special advisory referendum to determine the sentiment of the people on whether or not the Dickey-Lincoln Hydroelectric Power Project should be constructed.

Sec. 2. Advisory referendum procedure; submission at special statewide election; gubernatorial proclamation of results. This advisory referendum shall be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Maine at a special statewide election to be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following passage of this Act. 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, to give their opinion on this question by voting on the following:

“Shall the Dickey-Lincoln Hydroelectric Power Project be constructed?”

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 a 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 shall proclaim, without delay, the total number of ballots in favor of and opposed to the construction of the Dickey-Lincoln Hydroelectric Power Project.

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this advisory referendum.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill gives the people of Maine an opportunity to vote on whether they are in favor of or opposed to the construction of the Dickey-Lincoln Hydroelectric Power Project, and thus provide a clear indication of public sentiment to elected state and federal officials.