

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 168

6
7 S.P. 62

In Senate, January 12, 1983

8 Reference to the Committee on State Government. Sent down for
9 concurrence and ordered printed.

10 JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

11 Presented by Senator Dow of Kennebec.

12 Cosponsor: Senator Twitchell of Oxford.

13 STATE OF MAINE
14

15 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
16 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
17

18 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to
19 the Constitution of Maine to Provide that
20 Senators shall Serve Four-Year Terms Com-
21 mencing in 1986.
22

23 Constitutional amendment. RESOLVED: Two-thirds
24 of each branch of the Legislature concurring, that
25 the following amendment to the Constitution of Maine
26 be proposed:

27 Constitution, Art. IV, Pt. 2, §1 is repealed and
28 the following enacted in its place:

29 Section 1. Number of Senators. The Senate
30 shall consist of an odd number of Senators, not less
31 than thirty-one nor more than thirty-five, elected at
32 the same time and for the same term as Representa-
33 tives by the qualified electors of the districts into
34 which the State shall be from time to time divided.

1 Beginning with the general elections to be held in
2 1986, Senators shall be elected to four-year terms.

3 Constitutional referendum procedure; form of
4 question; effective date. Resolved: That the city
5 aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors of
6 this State shall notify the inhabitants of their
7 respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in
8 the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide
9 election, at a statewide election, on the Tuesday
10 following the first Monday of November following the
11 passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratifi-
12 cation of the amendment proposed in this resolution
13 by voting upon the following question:

14 "Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended as
15 proposed by a resolution of the Legislature to
16 establish four-year terms of office for Senators
17 commencing in 1986?"

18 The legal voters of each city, town and
19 plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and
20 shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark
21 placed within the corresponding square below the word
22 "Yes" or "No." The ballots shall be received,
23 sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and
24 plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary
25 of State in the same manner as votes for members of
26 the Legislature. The Governor shall review the
27 returns and, if it appears that a majority of the
28 legal votes are in favor of the amendment, the Gover-
29 nor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the
30 amendment shall become part of the Constitution on
31 the date of the proclamation.

32 Secretary of State shall prepare ballots.
33 Resolved: That the Secretary of State shall prepare
34 and furnish to each city, town and plantation all
35 ballots, returns and copies of this resolution neces-
36 sary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This constitutional resolution changes the terms
of Senators to four-year terms beginning in 1986.

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