

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 788

7 H.P. 637

House of Representatives, February 16, 1983

8 Referred to the Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence
9 and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

11 Presented by Representative Hobbins of Saco.
12

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 Reducing the Size of
20 the House of Representatives to 99 Members.
21

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

26 Constitution, Art. IV, Pt. 1, §2, as amended by
27 CR 1977, c. 4, is further amended to read:

28 Section 2. Number of Representatives; biennial
29 terms; Legislature to ascertain number of inhabi-
30 tants; apportionment among counties. The House of
31 Representatives shall consist of one hundred and
32 fifty-one ninety-nine members, to be elected by the
33 qualified electors, and hold their office two years
34 from the day next preceding the first Wednesday in
35 December following the general election. The Legis-

1 lature which shall convene after the adoption of this
2 amendment shall cause the multi-member districts of
3 the House of Representatives to be divided into dis-
4 tricts for the choice of one Representative for each
5 district, dividing contiguous districts the least
6 number of times necessary to establish as nearly as
7 practicable equally populated districts. The Legis-
8 lature which convenes in 1983 and every tenth year
9 thereafter shall cause the State to be divided into
10 districts for the choice of one Representative for
11 each district. The number of Representatives estab-
12 lished for the following legislative biennium shall
13 be divided into the number of inhabitants of the
14 State exclusive of foreigners not naturalized accord-
15 ing to the latest Federal Decennial Census or a State
16 Census previously ordered by the Legislature to coin-
17 cide with the Federal Decennial Census, to determine
18 a median population figure for each Representative
19 District. Each Representative District shall be
20 formed of contiguous and compact territory and shall
21 cross political subdivision lines the least number of
22 times necessary to establish as nearly as practicable
23 equally populated districts. Whenever the population
24 of a municipality entitles it to more than one dis-
25 trict, all whole districts shall be drawn within
26 municipal boundaries. Any population remainder within
27 the municipality shall be included in a district
28 drawn to cross the municipal boundary, provided that
29 such population remainder of the municipality must be
30 contiguous to another municipality or municipalities
31 included in the district.

32 Constitutional referendum procedure; form of
33 question; effective date. Resolved: That the city
34 aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors of
35 this State shall notify the inhabitants of their
36 respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in
37 the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide
38 election, at a statewide election, on the Tuesday
39 following the first Monday of November following the
40 passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratifi-
41 cation of the amendment proposed in this resolution
42 by voting upon the following question:

43 "Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended as
44 proposed by a resolution of the Legislature to reduce
45 the size of the House of Representatives from 151 to
46 99 members?"

