

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 2311

6
7 H.P. 1750

House of Representatives, March 20, 1984

8 Submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation pursuant to the
9 Revised Statutes, Title 1, chapter 31.

10 Reported by Representative Higgins from the Committee on Taxation
pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 1, Chapter 31 and printed under Joint Rule 18.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

11
12
13 STATE OF MAINE
14

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

18 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the
19 Constitution of Maine to Provide that
20 Municipalities May Choose to Tax Certain
21 Property Which has been Exempt at a Percentage
22 of Just Value.
23

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

28 Constitution, Article IX, §8, sub-§4 is enacted
29 to read:

30 4. Municipalities may choose to tax certain
31 classes of property which were exempt from taxation
32 on April 1, 1978, at 25% of just value. Classes of
33 property eligible for taxation under this subsection
34 include property of the State, property of benevo-
35 lent and charitable institutions, property of liter-
36 ary and scientific institutions, but not including

1 institutions whose primary purpose is providing an
2 organized educational curriculum, property of cham-
3 bers of commerce or boards of trade, property of fra-
4 ternal organizations and property leased and used by
5 an incorporated benevolent and charitable organiza-
6 tion which is exempt from taxation under the United
7 States Internal Revenue Code of 1954, Section 501,
8 and the primary purpose of which is the operation of
9 a hospital licensed by the Department of Human Ser-
10 vices, health maintenance organization or blood bank.

11 Constitutional referendum procedure; form of
12 question; effective date. Resolved: That the city
13 aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors of
14 this State shall notify the inhabitants of their re-
15 spective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in
16 the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide
17 election, at the next general election in the month
18 of November following passage of this resolution, to
19 vote upon the ratification of the amendment proposed
20 in this resolution by voting upon the following ques-
21 tion:

22 "Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended to
23 provide that municipalities may choose to tax
24 certain classes of property which was exempt from
25 property tax on April 1, 1978, at 25% of just
26 value?"

27 The legal voters of each city, town and
28 plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and
29 shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark
30 placed within the corresponding square below the word
31 "Yes" or "No." The ballots shall be received,
32 sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and
33 plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary
34 of State in the same manner as votes for members of
35 the Legislature. The Governor shall review the re-
36 turns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal
37 votes are in favor of the amendment, the Governor
38 shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amend-
39 ment shall become part of the Constitution on the
40 date of the proclamation.

41 Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Re-
42 solved: That the Secretary of State shall prepare
43 and furnish to each city, town and plantation all

1 ballots, returns and copies of this resolution neces-
2 sary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

3 STATEMENT OF FACT

4 This resolution provides for a constitutional
5 amendment to permit municipalities to tax certain
6 classes of property at 25% of just value.

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