

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 703

6  
7 H.P. 500

House of Representatives, February 26, 1985

8 Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

9 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

10 Presented by Representative Sherburne of Dexter.

Cosponsored by Senator Twitchell of Oxford, Representative Racine of Biddeford and Representative Murphy of Kennebunk.

11  
12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE  
16

17 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment  
18 to the Constitution of Maine  
19 Concerning the Assessment of Property Taxes.  
20

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

25 Constitution, Article IX, §8, first ¶, is amended  
26 to read:

27 Section 8. Taxation. All taxes upon real and  
28 personal estate, assessed by authority of this State,  
29 shall be apportioned and assessed equally according  
30 to the just value thereof. For purposes of real es-  
31 tate tax assessment, just value shall be determined  
32 by the current use to which the property is being  
33 put.

34 Constitutional referendum procedure; form of  
35 question; effective date. Resolved: That the city

1 aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors of  
2 this State shall notify the inhabitants of their re-  
3 spective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in  
4 the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide  
5 election, at a statewide election, on the Tuesday  
6 following the first Monday of November following the  
7 passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratifi-  
8 cation of the amendment proposed in this resolution  
9 by voting upon the following question:

10 "Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended  
11 to require that all real property be assessed at  
12 just value as determined by the current use to  
13 which the property is being put?"

14 The legal voters of each city, town and  
15 plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and  
16 shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark  
17 placed within the corresponding square below the word  
18 "Yes" or "No." The ballots shall be received,  
19 sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and  
20 plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary  
21 of State in the same manner as votes for members of  
22 the Legislature. The Governor shall review the re-  
23 turns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal  
24 votes are in favor of the amendment, the Governor  
25 shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amend-  
26 ment shall become part of the Constitution on the  
27 date of the proclamation.

28 Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Re-  
29 solved: That the Secretary of State shall prepare  
30 and furnish to each city, town and plantation all  
31 ballots, returns and copies of this resolution neces-  
32 sary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

33 STATEMENT OF FACT

34 The purpose of this constitutional resolution is  
35 to provide that the tax assessment on real property  
36 be according to just value as determined by the cur-  
37 rent use to which the property is being put.

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