

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 858

H.P. 635 House of Representatives, March 20, 1987
Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government
suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative HILLOCK of Gorham.

Cosponsored by Representative KIMBALL of Buxton.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

1 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment
2 to the Constitution of Maine
3 to Permit the Governor to Veto Items Contained
4 in Bills Appropriating Money and Retaining the
5 Power within the Legislature to Override such
6 Item Vetoes.
7

8 Constitutional amendment. RESOLVED: Two thirds
9 of each branch of the Legislature concurring, that
10 the following amendment to the Constitution of Maine
11 be proposed:

12 Constitution, Art. IV, Pt. Third, §2 is amended
13 by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

14 If any bill presented to the Governor contains
15 one or more items of appropriation of money, he may
16 object to one or more of those items, while approving

1 other portions of the bill. In such a case, he shall
2 append to the bill at the time of signing it a state-
3 ment of the item or items which he declines to ap-
4 prove, together with his reasons therefor, and shall
5 send a copy of that statement to both the House of
6 Representatives and the Senate, and that item or
7 items shall not take effect unless passed over the
8 Governor's objection as provided in this section.

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

20 "Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended
21 to permit the Governor to veto items contained in
22 bills appropriating money?"

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

37 Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Re-
38 solved: That the Secretary of State shall prepare
39 and furnish to each city, town and plantation all
40 ballots, returns and copies of this resolution neces-
41 sary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This Constitutional Resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Maine to permit the Governor to veto items contained in bills appropriating money and preserves the right of the Legislature to override the Governor's veto of any item.

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