

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 2131

H.P. 1564 House of Representatives, January 25, 1988
Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government
suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative KILKELLY of Wiscasset.
Cosponsored by Representative GWADOSKY of Fairfield.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the
2 Constitution of Maine to Permit
3 Municipalities to Waive Property Taxes for
4 Residents who are 70 Years or Older.
5

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

10 Constitution, Article IX, §8, sub-§5 is enacted

1 to read:

2 5. Waiving property taxes. A municipality, by
3 referendum, may adopt an ordinance waiving property
4 taxes, for persons who are 70 years or older, on
5 parcels of property which have been the owner's
6 primary residence for 20 or more years.

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

17 "Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended to
18 permit municipalities to waive property taxes for
19 persons who are 70 years or older and have lived
20 on the property for 20 or more years?"

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

35 Secretary of State shall prepare ballots.
36 Resolved: That the Secretary of State shall prepare
37 and furnish to each city, town and plantation all
38 ballots, returns and copies of this resolution
39 necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

STATEMENT OF FACT

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This constitutional resolution permits municipalities to waive property taxes on primary residences for residents who are 70 years or older and who have lived on the property for at least 20 years.

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