

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 4

H.P. 10

House of Representatives, January 5, 1989

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

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative McCORMICK of Rockport.

STATE OF MAINE

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

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Allow the Governor to Veto Items Contained in Bills Appropriating Money and Retaining the Power in the Legislature to Override those Line Item Vetoes.



001040-1 8901

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3 Constitutional amendment. **RESOLVED:** Two thirds of each branch of
the Legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the
5 Constitution of Maine be proposed:

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

9 If any bill presented to the Governor contains one or more
11 items of appropriation of money, the Governor may object to one
13 or more of those items, while approving other portions of the
15 bill. In such a case, the Governor shall append to the bill at
17 the time of signing it a statement of the item or items which the
19 Governor declines to approve, together with the Governor's
21 reasons therefor, and shall send a copy of that statement to both
23 the House of Representatives and the Senate, and that item or
25 items shall not take effect unless passed over the Governor's
27 objection as provided in this section.

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

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

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

47 **Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved:** That the Secretary of
49 State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation
all ballots, returns and copies of this resolution necessary 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.