MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 785

H.P. 581

House of Representatives, March 15, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative PRIEST of Brunswick.
Cosponsored by Senator ANDREWS of Cumberland, Representative CURRAN of Westbrook and Representative CARROLL of Gray.

STATE OF MAINE

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

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Allowing for Variation in Property Tax Valuations.



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

Constitution, Article IX, Section 8, first ¶ is amended to read:

All taxes upon real and personal estate, assessed by authority of this State, shall be apportioned and assessed equally according to the just value thereof. The Legislature may provide for different classifications of property to be taxed at different percentages of just value.

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

"Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended to provide for different classifications of property to be taxed at different percentages of just value?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation 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.

Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved: That the Secretary of 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.

2.7

STATEMENT OF FACT

This Constitutional Resolution would allow the Legislature to provide for different classifications of property to be taxed at different percentages of just value.