



114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1090

H.P. 778

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House of Representatives, April 11, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative ROLDE of York.

STATE OF MAINE

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

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Permit Municipalities to Freeze Property Taxes for Residents upon Reaching the Age of 65. Constitutional amendment. RESOLVED: Two thirds of each branch of the Legislature concurring, that the following
amendment to the Constitution of Maine be proposed:

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Constitution, Article IX, §8, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Freezing property taxes. A municipality, by referendum, may adopt an ordinance freezing the property taxes of its residents at the level that is in effect when the property owner reaches the age of 65 or, if property is held jointly, when the eldest owner reaches the age of 65.

Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective 13 date. **Resolved:** That the city aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors of this State shall notify the inhabitants 15 of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the 17 manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, at a statewide election, on the Tuesday following the first Monday of 19 November following the passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment proposed in this resolution by 21 voting upon the following question:

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"Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended to permit municipalities to freeze property taxes for persons who reach the age of 65?"

27 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice 29 by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." . The ballots shall be received, 31 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 33 shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of 35 the legal voters are in favor of the amendment, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment shall 37 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.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This constitutional resolution permits municipalities to 47 freeze property taxes of its residents at the level that is in effect when the property owner reaches the age of 65 or, if the 49 property is held jointly, when the eldest owner reaches the age of 65.

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