

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 502

S.P. 193

In Senate, February 11, 1991

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRAWN of Knox

Cosponsored by Representative DONNELLY of Presque Isle and Representative BENNETT of Norway.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Lower the Minimum Age Requirement for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives.



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

4 **Constitution, Art. IV, Part First, §4,** as amended by CR 1987, c.
6 4, is further amended to read:

8 **Section 4. Residency requirement.** No person shall be a
10 member of the House of Representatives, unless the person shall,
at the commencement of the period for which the person is
12 elected, have been 5 years a citizen of the United States, have
arrived at the age of ~~21~~ 18 years, have been a resident in this
14 State one year; and for the 3 months next preceding the time of
this person's election shall have been, and, during the period
for which elected, shall continue to be a resident in the
16 district which that person represents.

18 No person may be a candidate for election as a member of the
House of Representatives unless, at the time of the nomination
20 for placement on the primary, general or special election ballot,
that person is a resident in the district which the candidate
22 seeks to represent.

24 **Constitution, Art. IV, Part Second, §6** is amended to read:

26 **Section 6. Qualifications.** The Senators shall be ~~25~~ 21 years
of age at the commencement of the term, for which they are
28 elected, and in all other respects their qualifications shall be
the same as those of the Representatives.

30 ; and be it further

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

42 "Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended to lower the
44 minimum age requirement to 21 years for State Senators and
18 years for members of the State House of Representatives?"

46 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall
48 vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice
by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square
50 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots shall be received,
sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation
52 meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same
manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor

2 shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of
the legal voters are in favor of the amendment, the Governor
4 shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment shall
become part of the Constitution on the date of the proclamation;
and be it further

6
8 **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
10 necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

12
14 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

16 This constitutional resolution provides that the issue of
lowering the minimum age requirement of Legislators to 21 years
for State Senators and 18 years for members of the State House of
18 Representatives be presented to the voters of the State.