MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1992

Legislative Document

No. 2333

H.P. 1656

House of Representatives, February 13, 1992

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27. Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative PARADIS of Augusta.

Cosponsored by Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake, Senator McCORMICK of Kennebec and Representative RYDELL of Brunswick.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act Authorizing an Advisory Referendum on Whether the Congress of the United States Should Establish a National Health Insurance Program.

(AFTER DEADLINE)

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. Advisory referendum on whether the Congress of the United States should establish a national health insurance program. The Secretary of State shall, at the next general election in the month of November following passage of this Act, hold an advisory referendum to determine the sentiment of the people on whether the Congress of the United States should establish a national health insurance program.

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Sec. 2. Advisory referendum procedure; submission at general election. This advisory referendum must be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Maine at the next general election in the month of November following passage of this Act. The municipal officers 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, to give their opinion on this question by voting on the following:

"Do you favor the passage of national legislation that would establish a comprehensive and affordable health insurance system for all Americans?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must 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 shall proclaim, without delay, the total number of ballots in favor of and opposed to the Congress of the United States establishing a national health insurance program.

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The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purpose of this advisory referendum.

If the results are in favor of the program, the Governor shall inform the members of the Maine Congressional Delegation and use the Governor's best efforts to see that the Congress of the United States establish a national health insurance program.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill directs the Secretary of State to hold an advisory referendum at the next general election to determine whether the voters of the State favor the Congress of the United States establishing a national health insurance program.

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