

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OK
R.O.S.

L.D. 1035

(Filing No. H-277)

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
116TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 768, L.D. 1035,
"RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine
to Create a Unicameral Legislature"

Amend the resolution in that part relating to "Art. IV, Part
First, §§1 and 2" in section 2 by striking out all of the first 2
sentences (page 2, lines 26 to 32 in L.D.) and inserting in their
place the following:

'The Legislature consists of 151 members who are elected by the
qualified electors and serve terms of 2 years from the day next
preceding the first Wednesday in December following a general
election. The Legislature that convenes in December 2002 and
every 10th year thereafter shall cause the State to be divided
into districts for the choice of one member of the Legislature
for each district.'

Further amend the resolution in the question in the 3rd line
(page 18, line 13 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "147"
and inserting in its place the following: '151'

Further amend the resolution in the last paragraph in the
last line (page 18, line 30 in L.D.) by striking out the
following: "referendum." and inserting in its place the
following: 'referendum; and be it further'

Further amend the resolution by inserting at the end before
the statement of fact the following:

'Transition. Resolved: That for the Legislature that convenes
in December 1994 and in each legislative biennium following that
date until apportionment of the Legislature is accomplished in
2002 as provided in this resolution, one member

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 of the Legislature must be elected from each of the 151 districts
3 established for the House of Representatives by the apportionment
4 plan approved in 1993.

6 **FISCAL NOTE**

8 The estimated cost of sending this constitutional resolution
9 out to referendum will vary according to the total number of
10 referenda enacted during the First Regular Session of the 116th
11 Legislature. The estimated cost to the Secretary of State if one
12 to 6 referenda are enacted is \$95,000. Each additional
13 referendum costs an additional \$7,000.

14 If approved by the voters, replacing the existing
15 legislative structure with a unicameral Legislature of 151
16 members will result in net General Fund savings to the
17 Legislature beginning in fiscal year 1994-95. These savings,
18 resulting from reductions of legislators' salaries and benefits,
19 travel and constituent allowances and legislative staff, and the
20 net of the costs associated with reapportioning legislative
21 districts, can not be exactly determined at this time, but would
22 exceed an estimated \$500,000 for a first regular session and
23 \$350,000 for a second regular session.

26 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

28 The resolution proposed amending the Constitution of Maine
29 to establish a 147-member unicameral legislative body known as
30 the Legislature. This amendment increases the size of the
31 Legislature to 151 members and adds a fiscal note and a
32 transition clause to the resolution.

34

Reported by the Minority of the Committee on State and Local Government
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the
House
5/11/93 (Filing No. H-277)