

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 40

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H.P. 46

House of Representatives, January 12, 1995

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine  
to Reduce the Size of the Maine Legislature to 99 Members in the House  
and 33 Members in the Senate.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BUCK of Yarmouth.  
Cosponsored by Senator HARRIMAN of Cumberland and  
Representatives: BARTH of Bethel, JONES of Pittsfield, JOYCE of Biddeford, POVICH of  
Ellsworth, Senators: ABROMSON of Cumberland, MILLS of Somerset.



2 inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to  
meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide  
4 election, at a statewide election, on the Tuesday following the  
first Monday of November following the passage of this  
6 resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment  
proposed in this resolution by voting upon the following question:

8 "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to reduce  
the size of the House of Representatives from 151 members to  
10 99 members and limit the size of the Senate from no more  
than 35 members to 33 members?"

12 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall  
14 vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a  
cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below  
16 the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted,  
counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings  
18 and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as  
votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review  
20 the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes  
are cast in favor of the amendment, the Governor shall proclaim  
22 that fact without delay and the amendment becomes part of the  
Constitution on the date of the proclamation; and be it further

24 **Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved:** That the  
26 Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town  
and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this resolution  
28 necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.

30  
32 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

This resolution proposes a constitutional amendment to  
34 reduce the size of the House of Representatives from 151 members  
to 99 members and the size of the Senate from no more than 35  
36 members to 33 members. The redistricting will be done by the  
117th Legislature and the reduction in the size of the bodies  
38 takes effect for the 118th Legislature.

40 The resolution also requires redistricting again in 2003 and  
every 10 years thereafter so that the redistricting is more  
42 closely aligned with the federal census figures.