

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
R. O. S.

L.D. 1628

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DATE: 2/16/96

(Filing No. H-714)

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LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

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12 the House.

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
117TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1187, L.D. 1628,
"RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine
Regarding Municipal Certification of Direct Initiative Petitions"

24 Amend the resolution by inserting at the end before the
statement of fact the following:

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**'Constitutional referendum procedure: form of question; effective
date. Resolved:** That 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 general election, at the next general election in the month of
November following passage of this resolution, to vote upon the
ratification of the amendment proposed in this resolution by
voting upon the following question:

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"Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to require
that a direct initiative petition be submitted to local
officials earlier than is presently required in order to
allow 5 working days rather than 2 working days for local
officials to certify the petition?"

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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 the 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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R. of S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1187, L.D. 1628

2 votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review
the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes
4 are cast in favor of the amendment, the Governor shall proclaim
that fact without delay and the amendment becomes part of the
6 Constitution on the date of the proclamation; and be it further

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 purpose of this referendum.'

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

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16 **FISCAL NOTE**

18 The estimated cost of sending this constitutional amendment
out to referendum will vary according to the total number of
20 referenda enacted during the Second Regular Session of the 117th
Legislature to be submitted to the voters in November. The
22 estimated cost to the Secretary of State if one to 6 referenda
are enacted is \$95,000. Each additional referendum costs an
24 additional \$7,000.'

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28 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

This amendment adds a referendum clause and a fiscal note to
30 the resolution.