# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 201

H.P. 159

House of Representatives, January 16, 1997

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Change the Term of the Governor.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative CAMERON of Rumford.

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

#### Constitution, Art. V, Part First, §2 is amended to read:

Section 2. Term of office; reelection eligibility. The Governor shall-be is elected by the qualified electors, and shall hold the office for 4 6 years from the first Wednesday after the first Tuesday of January next following the election and until the successor to the Governor has been duly elected and qualified. The person who has served 2-consecutive-popular elective-4-year-terms one 6-year term of office as Governor shall be is ineligible to succeed-himself--er--herself serve in a consecutive term.

; and be it further

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 statewide election, at a statewide election, on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following the passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment proposed in this resolution by voting upon the following question:

"Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to change the term of the Governor to a 6-year term and limit the Governor to one term?"

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

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 necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.

### **SUMMARY**

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This resolution changes the term of office for the Governor to 6 years and prohibits the Governor from serving consecutive terms.