

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: March 27, 1997

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STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Reported by: Majority

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
118TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 122, L.D. 401, "RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Require the Election of the Secretary of State in Statewide Elections"

Amend the resolution in that part designated "**Constitution, Art. V, Part Second**" in section 1 in the last line (page 1, line 13 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "Governor." the following: 'A person may not serve more than 2 consecutive popularly elected terms as Secretary of State.'

Further amend the resolution in that part designated "**Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective date.**" by striking out all of the question (page 1, lines 40 to 43 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

' "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to provide that the Secretary of State be elected by the people every 4 years and be limited to 2 consecutive terms in the same manner as the Governor?" '

Further amend the resolution by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

FISCAL NOTE

The estimated cost of sending this resolution out to referendum will vary according to the total number of referenda enacted during the First Regular Session of the 118th Legislature to be submitted to the voters in November. The estimated cost to the Secretary of State if one to 6 referenda are enacted is \$95,000. Each additional referendum costs an additional \$7,000.

R. of S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 122, L.D. 401

2 If approved by the voters, this resolution may have future
cost implications during primary and general elections if a 2nd
4 ballot is required to accommodate all of the elected officials
due to the limited space on the ballots. The cost of adding a
6 2nd ballot is \$95,000.'

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SUMMARY

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12 This amendment adds a provision prohibiting the Secretary of
State from serving more than 2 consecutive popularly elected
terms. This amendment will allow 8 consecutive years of service,
14 which keeps the limit on consecutive service the same as under
the current statutory term limits law. The amendment also adds a
16 fiscal note to the bill.