MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 228

H.P. 166

House of Representatives, January 11, 1999

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Require a Referendum for a People's Veto to Be Held at a Primary or General Election.

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative WILLIAMS of Orono.
Cosponsored by Senator ABROMSON of Cumberland and

Representatives: CHIZMAR of Lisbon, DUNLAP of Old Town, McGLOCKLIN of Embden,

TOWNSEND of Portland, Senator: CATHCART of Penobscot.

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. IV, Part Third, §17, sub-§3 is amended to read:

3. Referral to electors; proclamation by Governor. As soon as it appears that the effect of any Act, bill, resolve, or resolution or part or parts thereof has been suspended by petition in manner aforesaid, the Governor by public proclamation shall give notice thereof and of the time when such measure is to be voted on by the people, which shall be at the next statewide election not less than 60 days after such proclamation,—or—in case—of—no—statewide—election—within—6—months—thereafter—the Governor—may—order—such—measure—submitted—to—the—people—at—a special—election—net—less—than—60—days—ner—more—than—6—menths after—preclamation—thereof. If the Governor fails to order such measure to be submitted to the people at the next statewide election, the Secretary of State shall, by proclamation, order such measure to be submitted to the people at such an election and such order shall be sufficient to enable the people to vote.

; 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 require a people's veto referendum to be conducted at regular statewide elections?"

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.

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SUMMARY

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This constitutional resolution requires a people's veto referendum to be conducted at regular statewide elections.