

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 431

H.P. 315

House of Representatives, January 14, 1999

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine
to Prohibit Fees for Activity Related to the Election Process.**

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

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative RINES of Wiscasset.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DUNLAP of Old Town, HATCH of Skowhegan, JOY of
Crystal, LEMONT of Kittery, McALEVEY of Waterboro, STANLEY of Medway, Senator:
KONTOS of Cumberland.

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

6 **Constitution, Art. II, §6** is enacted to read:

8 Section 6. No fees for election activities. Electors may
not be assessed a fee or charge for any activity related to their
10 participation in the election process.

12 ; and be it further

14
16 **Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective**
date. **Resolved:** That the municipal officers of this State shall
18 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
20 following the first Monday of November following the passage of
this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment
22 proposed in this resolution by voting upon the following question:

24 "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to make it
illegal for voters to be assessed fees to participate in the
26 election process?"

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

40 **Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved:** That the
Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town
42 and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this resolution
necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.
44

SUMMARY

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4 This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine
to prohibit the assessment of fees in connection with a citizen's
participation in the election process.