MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 389

H.P. 311

House of Representatives, January 30, 2001

Millient M. Mac Failand

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Prohibit a Person Employed Full-time in the Judicial or Executive Branch of the State from Serving in the Legislature.

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

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative PERKINS of Penobscot.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, McKENNEY of Cumberland, PINKHAM of Lamoine, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, WHEELER of Bridgewater, Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, McALEVEY of York.

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, §4 is amended to read:

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Section 4. Residency requirement. No person shall be a member of the House of Representatives, unless the person shall, at the commencement of the period for which the person is elected, not be a full-time employee of the judicial or executive branch of the State, have been 5 years a citizen of the United States, have arrived at the age of 21 years, have been a resident in this State one year; and for the 3 months next preceding the time of this person's election shall have been, and, during the period for which elected, shall continue to be a resident in the district which that person represents.

No person may be a candidate for election as a member of the House of Representatives unless, at the time of the nomination for placement on the primary, general or special election ballot, that person is a resident in the district which the candidate seeks to represent.

; 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 prohibit full-time employees of the judicial or executive branch of the State from serving in the Legislature?"

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 resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to prohibit full-time employees of the judicial or executive branch of the State from serving in the Legislature.