

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 574

H.P. 453

House of Representatives, February 6, 2001

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine
to Reduce the Number of Signatures Required for Citizen Initiatives.**

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

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative MICHAEL of Auburn.

2 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall
vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a
4 cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below
the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted,
6 counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings
and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as
8 votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review
the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes
10 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

12
14 **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
16 necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.

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SUMMARY

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22 This resolution proposes amending the Constitution of Maine
to require that the number of signatures required on a petition
to directly initiate legislation be not less than 6% of the total
24 vote for Governor cast in the last gubernatorial election. The
currently required percentage is 10%.