

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 784

H.P. 582

House of Representatives, February 18, 2003

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine To Allow the Legislature To Establish a Different Property
Tax Rate for Secondary Residential Property for Purposes of
Education Funding and To Protect State Funding of Education**

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative McGOWAN of Pittsfield.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BLANCHETTE of Bangor, DUGAY of Cherryfield,
DUNLAP of Old Town, PELLON of Machias, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, TARDY of Newport,
THOMAS of Orono, TOBIN of Dexter.

2 amendment proposed in this resolution by voting upon the
following question:

4 "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to permit
the Legislature to establish a different tax rate for
6 secondary residential property for the purpose of funding
public education from kindergarten to grade 12, to establish
8 the Education Funding Stabilization Fund dedicated to
providing a stable source of state revenue to support
10 kindergarten to grade 12 education and to dedicate
additional sales tax revenue enacted as a result of a
12 referendum to support kindergarten to grade 12 education?"

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

26
Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved: That the
28 Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town
and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this resolution
30 necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

32
34 **SUMMARY**

36 This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine
to permit the Legislature to establish a different tax rate for
38 secondary residential property for the purpose of funding public
education from kindergarten to grade 12, to establish the
Education Funding Stabilization Fund dedicated to providing a
40 stable source of state revenue to support kindergarten to grade
12 education and to dedicate additional sales tax revenue enacted
42 as a result of a referendum to support kindergarten to grade 12
education unless otherwise appropriated by a 2/3 vote of each
44 House of the Legislature.