

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. 416

L.D. 938

DATE: 4/16/04

(Filing No. H-955)

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
121ST LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 695, L.D. 938, "RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Change the Assessment of Lands Used for Long-term Ownership"

Amend the resolution by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Authorize a Limitation in the Rate of Change in Taxable Value of Property To Preserve Home Ownership in Maine'

Further amend the resolution on page 1 by striking out all of lines 5 to 40 and inserting in their place the following:

'Constitution, Art. IX, §8, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Homestead land value. A municipality may limit the rate of change in the taxable value of homestead land to the rate of change in purchasing power of United States currency as consistently measured by a reliable index adopted by the Legislature. The limitation does not apply to changes in value arising from physical alterations to the land or arising from changes in law affecting authorized use of the land.

Homestead land is land that is exclusively and continuously owned by one or more residents of the State while the land remains the principal home of each owner. The taxable value of the parcel must be restored to just value upon change in ownership or use. A homestead parcel qualifying for the limitation may not be larger than reasonably necessary to support a personal residence and may be otherwise limited or defined by the Legislature.

The decision by a municipality to limit the rate of change in taxable value of homestead land under this subsection does not

HOUSE AMENDMENT

REPS.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 695, L.D. 938

2 affect the determination of the equalized just value of taxable  
property in the municipality for any purpose.'

4 Further amend the resolution on page 2 by striking out all  
of the question and inserting in its place the following:

6  
8 ' "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to allow  
a municipality to limit the rate of change in the taxable  
10 value of homestead land to the rate of change in purchasing  
power of United States currency as consistently measured by  
a reliable index adopted by the Legislature?" '

14 **SUMMARY**

16 This amendment provides for amending the Constitution of  
Maine to allow a municipality the option to limit the rate of  
18 change in the taxable value of homestead land to the rate of  
change in purchasing power of United States currency as  
20 consistently measured by a reliable index adopted by the  
Legislature.

22

24 SPONSORED BY: *Leila Jane Percy*  
26 (Representative PERCY)

28 TOWN: Phippsburg

30

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
(See attached)

Approved: 04/16/04 *MAC*

**121st Maine Legislature  
Office of Fiscal and Program Review**

**LD 938**

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine  
to Change the Assessment of Lands Used for Long-term Ownership**

**LR 1832(04)**

**Fiscal Note for House Amendment " " to Committee Amendment " "**

**Sponsor: Rep. Percy**

**Fiscal Note Required: No**



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**Fiscal Note**

No fiscal impact