

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1180

S.P. 384

In Senate, March 5, 2003

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine To Establish a Judicial Advisory Opinion Mechanism in
Disputed Election Results for Members of the Maine Senate and
House of Representatives**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BLAIS of Kennebec.

Cosponsored by Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, GILMAN of Cumberland, MITCHELL of Penobscot, SAVAGE of Knox, WOODCOCK of Franklin.

2 **Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved:** That the
Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town
4 and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this resolution
necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.
6

8 **SUMMARY**

10 This constitutional amendment proposes to establish a
mechanism whereby a candidate in a disputed election for a seat
12 in the state Senate or House of Representatives may seek an
advisory opinion from the Supreme Judicial Court for a
14 determination of who it finds is the apparent winner. Under the
amendment, the chamber in which the dispute exists could not
16 transact any business until the opinion is rendered.