

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

R.O.S.

L.D. 838

Date: 4/9/9

(Filing No. H- 77)

Report A  
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
124TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 574, L.D. 838, "RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Elect 2 Senators from Each County and To Increase the Senate Term from 2 to 4 Years"

Amend the resolution on page 1 by striking out all of lines 16 to 20 and inserting the following:

'Constitution, Art. IV, Pt. Second, §1 is amended to read:

Section 1. Number of Senators. The Senate shall consist of an odd number of Senators, not less than 31 nor more than 35, except that on or after December 3, 2014, the Senate shall consist of 32 Senators, elected at the same time and for the same term as Representatives as provided in Article II, Section 4 by the qualified electors of the districts into which the State shall be from time to time divided.'

Amend the resolution on page 1 by striking out all of the question (page 1, lines 37 to 40 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

' "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to increase the Senate term from 2 years to 4 years effective in the year 2010, and to reduce the size of the Senate from no more than 35 members to 32 members by reapportioning senatorial districts to coincide with the counties of the State, effective in the year 2014?" '

SUMMARY

This amendment clarifies that the increase in the length of a Senate term would take place in 2010 and the reduction in the size of Senate as a result of reapportioning to 2 Senators per county would take place in 2014 if the proposal in the constitutional referendum is approved.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



# 124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 838

LR 1839(02)

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Elect 2 Senators from Each County and To Increase the Senate Term from 2 to 4 Years**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"**

**Committee: State and Local Government**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

## Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Future biennium savings - General Fund

Future biennium savings - Other Special Revenue Funds

### Referendum Costs

Month/Year	Election Type	Question	Length
Nov-09	General	Referendum	Standard

The Secretary of State's budget includes sufficient funds to accommodate one ballot of average length for the general election in November. If the number or size of the referendum questions requires production and delivery of a second ballot, an additional appropriation of \$107,250 may be required.

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

If approved by the voters, the Legislature would realize General Fund savings in legislative salaries and expenses beginning in fiscal year 2014-15 of approximately \$125,000 for a First Regular Session and \$102,000 for a Second Regular Session due to the reduction in the number of Senators.

Increasing the Senate term to 4 years would result in cost savings to the Maine Clean Election Fund. If this legislation were to go forward and be approved by the voters, 2012 would be the first year savings would be realized to the Fund, which are estimated at \$1,030,000 in Other Special Revenue Funds. It would also result in a reduction in Other Special Revenue Funds revenue of approximately \$25,000 from reduced qualifying contributions.