

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 134

H.P. 109

House of Representatives, January 29, 2013

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine To Reduce the Size of the Legislature**

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative BROOKS of Winterport.
Cosponsored by Senator THIBODEAU of Waldo and
Representatives: EVANGELOS of Friendship, FARNSWORTH of Portland, PEASE of
Morrill, STANLEY of Medway, WINCHENBACH of Waldoboro.

1 **Constitutional amendment. Resolved:** Two thirds of each branch of the
2 Legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the Constitution of Maine be
3 proposed:

4 **Constitution, Art. IV, Pt. First, §2**, as amended by CR 2011, c. 1, is further
5 amended to read:

6 **Section 2. Number of Representatives; biennial terms; division of the**
7 **State into districts for House of Representatives.** The House of Representatives
8 shall consist of 151 members, except that, beginning with the 128th Legislature and
9 thereafter, the House of Representatives shall consist of 101 members, to be elected by
10 the qualified electors, and hold their office 2 years from the day next preceding the first
11 Wednesday in December following the general election. The Legislature which convenes
12 in ~~2013~~ 2015, and also the Legislature which convenes in 2021 and every 10th year
13 thereafter, shall cause the State to be divided into districts for the choice of one
14 Representative for each district. The number of Representatives shall be divided into the
15 number of inhabitants of the State exclusive of foreigners not naturalized according to the
16 latest Federal Decennial Census or a State Census previously ordered by the Legislature
17 to coincide with the Federal Decennial Census, to determine a mean population figure for
18 each Representative District. Each Representative District shall be formed of contiguous
19 and compact territory and shall cross political subdivision lines the least number of times
20 necessary to establish as nearly as practicable equally populated districts. Whenever the
21 population of a municipality entitles it to more than one district, all whole districts shall
22 be drawn within municipal boundaries. Any population remainder within the
23 municipality shall be included in a district with contiguous territory and shall be kept
24 intact.

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

26 **Section 1. Number of Senators.** The Senate shall consist of an odd number of
27 Senators, not less than 31 nor more than 35, except that, beginning with the 128th
28 Legislature and thereafter, the Senate shall consist of 25 members, elected at the same
29 time and for the same term as Representatives by the qualified electors of the districts
30 into which the State shall be from time to time divided.

31 **Constitution, Art. IV, Pt. Second, §2** as amended by CR 2011, c. 1, is further
32 amended to read:

33 **Section 2. Submission of reapportionment plan to Secretary of Senate;**
34 **Legislature's action on commission's plan; division of State into Senatorial**
35 **Districts; division by Supreme Judicial Court.** The Legislature which shall
36 convene in the year ~~2013~~ 2015, and also the Legislature which shall convene in the year
37 2021 and every tenth year thereafter, shall cause the State to be divided into districts for
38 the choice of a Senator from each district, using the same method as provided in Article
39 IV, Part First, Section 2 for apportionment of Representative Districts.

40 ; and be it further

